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ENCARNACION'S MONSTER WEEKEND HAS JAYS THINKING LIKE CHAMPIONS

metroSPORTS

Leaside to drivers: 'Slow down'

SAFETY

Residents not seeing enough changes after child's death

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

One year after seven-year-old Georgia Walsh was killed by a van near McRae Drive and Millwood Road, Roger Van der Beek still sees drivers blow through a stop sign less than a block away.

"About one in five cars barely slows down, or just goes right through," he said. "I've seen mothers with children have to pull their strollers back to avoid getting hit."

Precious few changes have been made on Leaside streets since Walsh's death, despite a city council-ordered traffic study of the neighbourhood that was never conducted.

"Unfortunately that directive didn't come with any funding," said Jacqueline White, director of transportation for North York.

As cars continue to speed down streets like Millwood and Laird, residents say they're a victim of the city's piecemeal approach to road safety.

Georgia Walsh
CONTRIBUTED

"You've got councillors trying to improve their wards because that's who they answer to, but, as a result, everything is really siloed," said Meghan Sherwin, who helped create the "slow down, kids at play" signs that dot countless lawns across Leaside.

While community councils can approve things like speed-limit reductions on residential streets, any traffic-calming measures affecting main roads or TTC routes require broader council approval. As a result, the city has been slow to tackle speeding, said Coun. Joe Mihevc, a champion for pedestrian safety.

"We need to redesign our streets," Mihevc said. "But it's not going to happen in a day. It's going to happen in a generation."

While much of the conversation has focused on speed limits — the Toronto and East York community council unanimously approved lowering posted limits to 30 km/h on side streets this year — Mihevc and Sherwin said that's but one piece of the puzzle.

"I think the answer is beautification," said Sherwin, an advocate for narrower streets and wider sidewalks. "If we make our city beautiful, add roundabouts and boulevards and things like that, then people will walk more and drivers will slow down."

Numerous studies show a correlation between lane width and speed, with drivers more likely to hit the brakes on narrower roads.

Any such changes in Leaside will have to wait until the city's traffic study is completed, White said. In the meantime, Sherwin hopes the "slow down" signs will remind drivers to be more conscious behind the wheel. In the last year, she's sold 15,000 signs, with all the proceeds being reinvested in the campaign.

"That's 15,000 people who have raised their hand and said they care about improving road safety," she said.

The "slow down" campaign was started following Georgia Walsh's death. LUKE SIMCOE/METRO

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Your essential daily news

BitGold app to make it easier to own gold. **Business**

The pop-up restaurant that's right on the nose

CULINARY SCIENCE

Olfactory experience to be a part of this year's TIFF

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

There's nothing like the smell of a good meal when you're hungry.

But a pop-up restaurant in Toronto is about to take that idea a step further, hiring someone to create an entire "scent narrative" to accompany a dinner served inside a giant white dome.

The Sensorium is a Stella Artois-sponsored dining experience — or, in the beer company's words, an "immersive multi-course multi-sensory journey" — coming to King Street during the Toronto International Film Festival.

The idea is that all five senses are represented during the meal. Irwin Adam Eydelnant will be providing the smell.

Eydelnant and his team at Future Food Studio, described as a Toronto-based food design technology company, has been working closely with Chef Richie Farina to make sure each olfactory moment meets perfection.

Ultimately, he's out to have certain scents evoke diners' memories, helping them along the meal's path.

"There's one piece where the scent actually emerges from the table itself, and it will really transport you into a different space," Eydelnant said.

An edible cloud — a type of, for lack of a better word, food the Future Food Studio is known for — will be part of the Sensorium.

"You can pour into vessels; you can drink it; you can smell it," Eydelnant said.

Tickets for the Sensorium are sold out, but a special batch is being released for contests organized by establishments in Toronto.

You can find the complete list of those establishments at stellaartoissensorium.com

Irwin Eydelnant, right, has been working for several years with edible clouds, which can be poured into glasses and "eaten." He's pictured here in his Toronto BevLab with fellow founder Jarlath Rodgers. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Want shoes with that?
A ladies' size 8 with a side of fries, please.

John Fluevog Shoes on Queen Street W. is about to put that mysterious patio on the side of its store to good use.

The retailer has teamed up with folks at TorontoFoodTrucks.ca to launch Fluevog Street Eats — billed as the city's newest daily food-truck destination.

Starting Monday, trucks will serve up lunch and dinner in the lot behind the shoe store at Queen and Euclid Avenue.

Lunch runs from approximately 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Dinner's served from 5 to 8 p.m. METRO

Two hundred shambling corpses met in a theatre...
In the end, more than 200 people came to the funeral.

They came to bury the undead and mourn the passing of their beloved Toronto Zombie Walk, an annual event that ended Saturday on its unlucky 13th anniversary.

The mourners, many wearing ghoulish attire and makeup, filed past a "representative" zombie corpse lying in an open casket on stage at The Royal Cinema.

Some placed mementos inside the casket as Chopin's iconic Funeral March filled the darkened theatre.

The event has died due to the loss of a $10,000 government grant and a fundraising effort that came up short.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Celeb pet purrting ways with West Annex 'hood

URBAN LIFE

Beloved 'Safety Cat' says bye with poster

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

His name was Scratchy, but to residents of one West Annex neighbourhood, he'll always be Safety Cat.

Scratchy — and his trademark orange safety vest — has been a fixture along Albany Avenue all summer. The friendly cat could be spotted lounging on the sidewalk or darting across the road to get pats and scratches from people who were passing.

"Even though there's other community cats who want to greet you and get attention, there was something so wonderfully goofy about Safety Cat," said Dia Bishop, who lives around the corner on Bathurst Street.

Unfortunately for Bishop and other Safety Cat fans, Scratchy is moving to greener — and hopefully safer — pastures. The cat's unidentified owner made the announcement via a poster taped to a lamppost on Barton Avenue.

"I have enjoyed a great life in the Annex, getting to know all the friendly people of the neighbourhood, helping them cross the road, greeting them in the park and promoting through my attire the importance of road safety," the note reads.

"Sadly, my mum is now heading across the sea to grad school and is leaving me with a nice retired couple in North Toronto.... As such, I will have to resign my post as Neighbourhood Patrol Cat and say goodbye (for now)," it continued.

The first time Bishop saw Scratchy, the black and white cat ran in front of her car while she was looking for a parking spot. She said it was common to see the cat, oddly enough, napping in the middle of the road.

"I always thought he had to wear the vest because he makes horrible life decisions, like throwing himself in front of traffic," she joked.

Regardless of the origins of Scratchy's sartorial take on safety, Bishop said the cat will be missed.

"When I heard the news, I was devastated," she said. "But I'm really happy they left a note, because if he had just disappeared the community would have feared the worst."

Scratchy became an unofficial mascot. LUKE SIMCOE/METRO

Dear friends and admirers,

I regret to inform you that I am moving out of the neighbourhood and will no longer be patrolling these streets as of August the 26th.

Since arriving at my mum's door as a stray two summers ago, I have enjoyed a great life in the Annex, getting to know all the friendly people of the neighbourhood, helping them cross the road, greeting them in the park, and promoting through my attire the importance of road safety.

Sadly, my mum is now heading across the sea to grad school and is leaving me with a nice retired couple in North Toronto for the nine-month duration of her program. As such, I will have to resign my post as Neighbourhood Patrol Cat and say goodbye (for now) to you, my friends. I hope to see you again soon.

As a farewell gift, I offer you my many extra safety vests. I hope that other cats in the neighbourhood will find them as useful and as flattering as I do.

All the best,

Scratchy (a.k.a. Safety Cat, the Park Ranger, etc.)

The notice announcing the big move to North Toronto. LUKE SIMCOE/METRO

RECREATION

Gamers, get your glam on

Calling all socialites and gamers: Toronto's only black-tie video-game event is levelling up.

The second annual Fancy Video Game Party is happening Oct. 9 at the Masonic Temple in Yorkville. Organized by the Hand Eye Society, it's a celebration of games that leans more toward the creative than the commercial.

"We want to widen the goal posts of how people understand games and game culture," said Hand Eye Society co-founder Jim Munroe. "Early on, games were made mostly for commercial reasons, as entertainment.

"But as the culture around games has grown, more and more people are using the medium for creative expression."

Attendees don their best duds, schmooze with other video-game enthusiasts and play interesting games from Toronto and around the world.

Munroe said part of the fun comes from the way it blends elements of the high-art world with the traditionally "low culture" of video games.

"It doesn't jibe with people's stereotypes about what video-game events are like. We try to employ that dissonance and push the cultural conversation forward," he said.

Last year's ball took place at the Art Gallery of Ontario and drew more than 600 people.

"We were blown away," Munroe said. "We didn't expect that it was going to sell out two weeks in advance. It showed me and the organization that there's a desire for this particular type of event in Toronto."

LUKE SIMCOE/METRO

ON THE WEB

For more details, visit handeyesociety.com.

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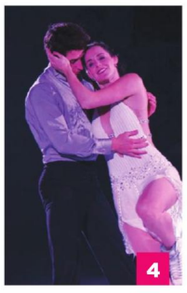

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Patrick Smye and mom Tiffany Smye in the R.H. McGregor Public School playground Thursday. More than 230 students have registered for kindergarten at the school. Almost half are looking for before- and after-school care. NICK KOZAK/FOR TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Parents frustrated by daycare crunch

EDUCATION

Government hopes to fulfil promises by the year 2017

Harried parents are clamouring for Ontario to begin requiring school boards to provide before- and after-school care for students aged six to 12, where there is sufficient demand.

The initiative is already part of a package of child-care reforms passed last December, much of which comes into force Monday. But with provincial consultations on that particular provision still months away, parents are wondering when Ontario will make good on its promise.

A government official says the province hopes before- and after-school care will be available for six- to 12-year-olds by 2017.

Tiffany and Ryan Smye aren't holding their breath. The East York parents have been struggling to get their four-year-old daughter Olivia into a before- and after-school program — even though schools are already required to accommodate kindergarten students where numbers warrant.

"There are so many young families in this neighbourhood who need good-quality licensed care, and there just isn't enough of it," said Tiffany Smye. "Parents were literally camped out overnight last spring to get a spot."

More than 230 students have registered for kindergarten at R.H. McGregor, at Mortimer and Coxwell avenues — and almost half are looking for before- and after-school care.

The YMCA daycare in the school is opening a third kindergarten room next week and will be able to serve up to 78 children. But there are still 25 kids on the waiting list.

"The frustration is palpable," Smye says.

> **"The city funding just isn't flexible enough."**
> Jane Mercer

Across Toronto, 18 new kindergarten daycare programs are opening this fall, with space for more than 460 children, city officials say. A further 55 programs for children aged six to 12 are opening to meet growing demand, they add.

To address the scramble for kindergarten care at R.H. McGregor, the city has been working with the principal, area daycares and the school board, says Elaine Baxter-Trahair, head of Toronto children's services.

Children on the waiting list, including the Smyes' daughter, have been offered before- and after-school care this year at the Centennial College Early Childhood Education Centre, across the street from the school.

The daycare is opening a kindergarten room to accommodate 26 children. But that room is slated to serve preschoolers next fall, and Baxter-Trahair is not sure how kindergarten students in the area will be served next year.

"They may have to move to a lottery," she says.

Jane Mercer, of the Toronto Coalition for Better Child Care, says a lottery is no way to treat parents who need daycare when they are at work or school.

Instead, the city should be working with daycares to help them turn the "lousy, split-shift jobs nobody wants" in before- and after-school programs into proper full-time work.

"Right now, the city funding just isn't flexible enough," she says.

The problem is only going to be compounded as the province mandates before- and after-school programs for older students, Mercer predicts.

"The province thinks they can tell the school boards what to do. The school boards think they can demand it of the child-care programs," she says. "But without proper support, child-care programs can't deliver."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

261,500
Ontario students in full-day kindergarten.

52,200
Before- and after-school spots for Ontario kindergarten students (in 2014).

52,000
Toronto kindergarten students.

10,000
Before- and after-school spots for Toronto kindergarten students.

Veterans overlooked in campaign: Ex-sergeant

ELECTION 2015

Young military personnel struggle to find civilian jobs

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

After 10 years in the Canadian military, David Blasman has a lot of skills when it comes to explosives and weaponry.

But those skills have proven little help when it comes to landing a civilian job.

Blasman left the reserves earlier this year, and, like many veterans has struggled to get employers to see past the guns, tanks and bombs on his resumé and recognize his project management and leadership skills.

Looking for a job in the GTA has been "difficult" and "depressing" experience.

"Either I get a low-paying job, and it's hard to keep up with bills, or I go back to school and end up in debt," the 27-year-old said.

Government research has found that veterans need an average of six years to earn as much as they did in the Canadian Forces, and incomes are worse for those discharged on medical grounds and female veterans.

David Blasman, left, is joined by fellow soldiers during a training mission. CONTRIBUTED

The government isn't doing enough to help modern-day veterans transition back into civilian life, Blasman said. It's an issue he'd like to see highlighted by federal politicians when they talk about veterans issues during the election.

He's hopeful that no matter which party is in power after Oct. 19, it will do more to help young veterans launch new careers.

"You've put your life on the line, gone to war with a Canadian flag on your shoulder," he said. "You'd think any of these parties would have stepped up a long time ago."

Blasman recently landed a job doing manual labour in the construction industry. While thankful, the former military sergeant — who served in Afghanistan and went to the Canadian North as an instructor — can't help but feeling like he's "starting over from zero."

"After everything I've accomplished in life, I feel like I'm scraping the bottom of the barrel here," he said. "I'm working with high school kids, college kids. After everything I've done, I tell stories and they look at me and their mouths drop."

It's not just veterans who are concerned.

Contractor Damon Bennett, known for his work on the TV show Holmes Makes it Right, is starting a construction company and aiming to hire a full crew of veterans. He's employed them before and describing them as motivated, goal-oriented people who work extremely well in teams.

"All of those things you ask for in an employee, you get in a veteran," Bennett said.

Not everyone sees it that way, he said. Some employers have a stigma against vets and fear they could be "volatile."

When he hires for his new company, Bennett will post the jobs on Kijiji and use the online classified site's "Veteran Friendly" designation.

The postings will be tagged with a yellow ribbon, encouraging vets to apply and telling them the employer supports their service to the country.

Bennett worked with Kijiji and a group of veterans to get that initiative off the ground in June.

"Once these veterans were carrying a weapon and fighting for our country, and now they're sitting in an office," he said. "They're able to adapt."

THE ISSUES

Justin Trudeau
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Liberals
• Have promised to spend $300 million a year to expand and create military support programs and reinstate lifelong pensions for injured veterans.

Stephen Harper
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Conservatives
• Have committed to strengthening the reserves and giving tax relief to service clubs like the Royal Canadian Legion.

Tom Mulcair
THE CANADIAN PRESS

NDP
• Party's plan for military and RCMP veterans is expected to be announced in early September.

BARRIE

Man charged after woman found safe

Police have laid charges in a daylight abduction of a young woman Saturday around noon in Barrie, and the victim is back safely with her family.

The woman, who is 24 despite initial reports that she may be under 18, was ordered into an SUV by a man with a gun.

It was later revealed to be a pellet gun.

The victim, a Midhurst resident, was found safe some time before 4:45 p.m. on Saturday, and the man was arrested along with a woman who was accompanying him.

That woman, a 36-year-old Toronto resident, has been released unconditionally, and police say she was not involved.

Police say they will not be releasing any information about whether or not the victim was connected to the man, out of respect to her family.

Police have charged the man, who is 35, with pointing a firearm, dangerous weapons and breach of probation.

The man, from Barrie, was not identified by police at Metro's press time.

He has been held pending a bail hearing.

That hearing was scheduled for Monday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CRASH

North York man dies in ATV rollover

A Toronto man was killed in an ATV crash in Brock Township Saturday night. The OPP says that a yellow Can Am ATV was being driven by the 53-year-old man on Thorah Concession Road 2, near Beaverton, Ont.

The ATV was headed east, but it made a U-turn and caught the edge of the road, police say. It rolled over into a deep ditch. The driver, a North York resident, was pronounced dead at the scene. Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 1-888-579-1520, ext. 5225 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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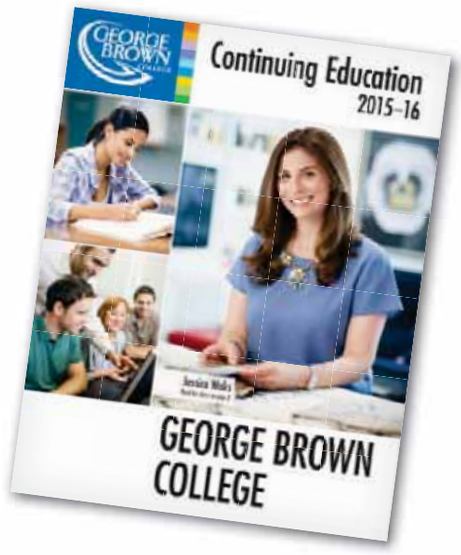

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Toronto's mysterious disappearing relics

CONUNDRUM

Three major incidents of stolen artifacts since 2005

Wanted: four paintings, two vases and a replica cannon.

These are just a few of the historical artifacts that have fallen victim to the sticky fingers of thieves at City of Toronto-owned properties over the last decade.

In total, the city has about 150,000 artifacts, some of which are on display at its museums and public buildings. There have been three major incidents of some of them going missing since 2005, according to information obtained by Toronto News Service through a freedom of information request. Objects disappeared at Fort York, the Scarborough Civic Centre and Spadina Museum.

"We don't have to deal with many thefts," said Alex Avdichuk, supervisor of collections and conservation with the City of Toronto. When it does happen, however, city staff file a police report and look into whether the city is eligible for an insurance payout.

Each case is unique: Sometimes, it's obvious the item was stolen, while other objects disappear more mysteriously. In one case, the artifact was recovered. The rest, however, remain at large. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **It's a fairly rare occurrence.**
> Alex Avdichuk

The Lion/Owl sculpture in the rotunda of the Scarborough Civic Centre, and this watercolour, Tudor Hipped Roof Cottage with Flock of Sheep by Sir Augustus Wall Callcott, formerly at Spadina Museum, are among the objects deemed missing from city properties. The sculpture is now back. CONTRIBUTED/ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE, TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CASE BY CASE PROFILES OF THE CITY'S 'MISPLACED' ART

The returned sculpture
The city will probably never know what happened to the metre-high piece Lion/Owl, by late artist Elizabeth Fraser Williamson, which disappeared in 2012 before inexplicably reappearing two years later.

It had been on display in the rotunda of the Scarborough Civic Centre when it was reported missing.

"We turned over every single place it could have been," Alex Avdichuk said.

Then, in 2014, Avdichuk received a phone call with incredible news: the 300-pound sculpture had returned without explanation.

The lost paintings
Four paintings were snatched off the walls of the Spadina Museum during the week of Nov. 17, 2014, and have yet to reappear.

Among the missing are an oil painting by Dutch artist Johannes Hendricus Jurres and three watercolours by British painter Sir Augustus Callcott.

"At least one of the missing works would have required a ladder and movement of furniture to remove," museum administrator Edwards noted in her written record of the loss.

Vases, boxes and utensils
Following an inventory of Spadina Museum, city staff uncovered several other missing artifacts.

Two vases and one trinket box have yet to be recovered, as well as several utensils.

Staff believe that at least some may have been taken by an employee.

The missing cannon
It's been 10 years since a replica of an 1880s-style long gun cannon was ripped from its display at Fort York's Blue Barracks building, and little is known about what happened.

EAST BAYFRONT LINE

Councillors aim to forge ahead on LRT deal

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

City council has yet to find money for the East Bayfront LRT line, but councillors are ready to pony up cash to reserve space for what's expected to be one of its stations.

The GO bus station at 45 Bay St. is being redeveloped with a 48-storey tower, and the developer has agreed to include a structure within the underground parking area that could serve as a transit platform, Coun. Pam McConnell said.

With the development expected to happen soon, politicians are facing a time crunch to formally get the deal in place.

Council has secured $2 million to make it happen, and the project's expected to cost less than that, McConnell said. A full report is expected at the Toronto East York Community Council meeting on Sept. 8.

"This very important for us, and it's been a good year in the making," McConnell said.

"As far as I know, there are no barriers" to approval, she added.

The East Bayfront LRT has been among council's transit priorities for years. Earlier this year, politicians approved a motion to expedite it, but the money still hasn't been secured.

As the waterfront east of downtown is being developed, there's more urgency for the line to be built, McConnell said.

"We are actively pursuing funding for the East Bayfront LRT as we speak. When that occurs is anybody's guess, but sometimes it happens faster than you think," she said. "And sometimes slower."

She considers reserving space for the LRT platform downtown is a step in the right direction.

Redevelopment of the Union Station Go bus terminal on Bay Street is expected to start soon. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

The Gatineau Hydro Corridor is one of the routes that will be explored during next month's 20-kilometre cycling event.
CONTRIBUTED

Saddle up for the suburbs

ROAD SAFETY

Biking tour coming to Scarborough

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

There's no better way to understand cycling in the suburbs than hopping in the saddle.

That's the idea behind a 20-kilometre bike tour coming to Scarborough next month.

"We want them to feel the nuances on the routes, the speed, the noise," said Marvin Macaraig, project coordinator for Scarborough Cycles and the tour's leader.

Cyclists in the suburbs face challenges people in the downtown core don't have, he said. Speed limits for cars are higher, for one, and cyclists find themselves more exposed on longer boulevards and avenues.

Even wayfinding can be a little more difficult, Macaraig noted.

"When you're cycling downtown, you can always look up and see the CN Tower, and it makes it easier to figure out directions," he said.

The tour is one of the events leading up to the Complete Streets Forum.

Dedicated to opening the vault on ideas for safer streets, the forum is led by the Toronto Centre for Active Transportation.

Suburban cycling is one of the items on the centre's agenda, and Scarborough is just one of the many places where they want to see it improved.

The Scarborough tour will see riders explore neighbourhoods from the Warden to Midland subway stations, passing through the Gatineau Hydro Corridor and crossing some major intersections.

"There are great opportunities to improve infrastructure in our suburbs," Macaraig said. "This stuff is not rocket science. If you really want to increase cycling culture, you have to fund these suburban projects."

MORE INFORMATION

- The Complete Streets Forum happens October 1. Marking its eighth year, the conference will focus on road design, advocating for plans that accommodate all road users.
- The Scarborough cycling tour is on Sept. 30. Other events happening that day include a waterfront walking tour and a workshop on the concept of open streets.
- You can get all the details at tcat.ca.

MAPLE LEAFS

KIDS CLUB UNVEILED

Carson (left), 4, and Riley, 6, paint on the ice of the Air Canada Centre as part of a celebration unveiling the Toronto Maple Leafs new kids' club, Sunday afternoon. Some of the youngest members of the Leafs Nation helped to celebrate mascot Carlton the Bear's 20th birthday with games and crafts and to welcome the new youth-focused initiative.
LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

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Rate your ride at the CNE

Aside from whacking moles and devouring delicacies, CNE attendees won't be let down by the more than 50 rides the fair has on offer. We grabbed a handful of exhibition-goers as they stepped from their chosen vessel of thrill and asked them how their ride measured up.

LIZ BEDDALL METRO

Eli and Justin

Ride: Mach 3 (37-metre arm that spins riders 360 degrees in every direction.)
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E: "Sitting at the top of this thing."
J: "There's not much that's really frightening for me."

Victoria, 11

Ride: Bonsai (Two lengthy extensions with riders at each end, both swooping 180 degrees and coming perilously close to colliding with the other.)
Fear factor: 9/10
Scariest thing you've ever done in your life:
"We live beside Canada's Wonderland, there's a ride (called) Leviathan. It's scarier than this. It's like, the steepest drop."

Tianna and Emily

Ride: Pharaoh's Fury: (Boat that swings riders in an arch up to 54 feet high)
Fear factor: T: 7/10 E: 8/10
Scariest thing you've ever done in your life:
T: "Going on the Zipper."

Betty

Ride: Mega Drop (A sudden and jarring free drop from 33-metres high in the sky.)
Fear factor: 8 or 9/10
Scariest thing you've ever done in your life:
B: "We went to Marineland and went on the same type of ride."

Sunny

Ride: Re-mix (Classic fast-paced scrambler ride.)
Fear factor: 7/10
"Not that scary. I've been on three. Hopefully I'm going to do the Mach 3, eventually."
Scariest thing you've ever done in your life:
"Conquering my fear of rollercoasters. At Canada's Wonderland."

Shelby, 10, and Oliver, 11

Ride: Cliffhanger (Ride that simulates a bird-like glide through the air)
Fear factor: S: 5/10
O: 4/10
Scariest thing you've ever done in your life:
O: "I've been swimming with sharks in Bahamas."
S: "Going rock climbing at a really high place."

Jay and Beth

Ride: Fireball (Rollercoaster set in a 180-degree loop)
Fear factor: J: 7/10 B: 7/10
B: "I was here two days ago I was on the Mach 3. And that's a 10/10."
Scariest thing you've ever done in your life:
B: "Probably a rollercoaster at Cedar Point. It was called the Top Thrill Drag Surf."
J: "Any rollercoaster with a drop. I don't like the big drops."

Ottawa will fight for journalist's release

EGYPT

Conservatives criticized for taking too long to intervene

The Canadian embassy in Cairo has officially petitioned the Egyptian government to release imprisoned journalist Mohamed Fahmy, according to Fahmy's brother.

Reached in Egypt by phone, Adel Fahmy told the Star that the Canadian ambassador to Egypt, Troy Lulashnyk, filed documents on Sunday morning to have Mohamed Fahmy either deported or pardoned.

"The ambassador has met with the (Egyptian) minister of justice today, and has also filed for deportation officially, and filed for a presidential pardon as well," Adel said.

"This is the opportune time and the most essential time for this to be done," he added.

Canadian Mohamed Fahmy, right,of Canadian Al-Jazeera English, listens to his lawyer, Khaled Abou Bakr, during his retrial in a courtroom in Cairo, Egypt, in June. AMR NABIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ottawa's decision to take a firm stance on Fahmy's release follows repeated calls from Prime Minister Stephen Harper's political opponents to take time off the campaign and concentrate on securing Fahmy's release.

They both called on Harper once again to phone Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi to personally demand the Al-Jazeera journalist's release.

An Egyptian court sentenced Fahmy to three years in prison on Saturday.

The foreign affairs critics for both the New Democrats and the Liberals lashed out at Harper for failing to intervene earlier. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS.

QUEBEC

No exemptions from new Sex Ed program

Education on sexual matters is too important to be optional, according to Quebec's ministry of education.

The province is rolling out a new pilot project in which sex education will soon become mandatory for all students from kindergarten to the last year of high school, regardless of the religious or personal convictions of parents. No exceptions will be made.

The sexuality education pilot project, which will begin in the next few days in about 15 schools, will last two years, affect 8,200 students and could be adopted by schools across the province in 2017.

However, documents obtained by The Canadian Press, and a series of interviews conducted in recent weeks, show that approval for the program is far from unanimous.

The Quebec program has no lack of contentious elements, whether it's the mandatory nature of the classes, lack of training for teachers, or the absence of consultation.

And whether they like it or not, even the most reluctant parents will have to get used to the idea that their children will learn about the signs of puberty and different sexual practices just as they learn about math and conjugating verbs.

"For the moment, no exemptions are planned," said ministry of education spokesperson Pascal Ouellet.

In the field, some are wondering if the ministry took Quebec's cultural and religious diversity into account. For example, how should teachers and administrators respond when a parent opposes, for religious reasons, their 12-year-old child learning to identify different sexual practices?

Lorraine Normand-Charbonneau, the president of the Quebec School Principals Federation, says some parents just "don't want their teen to learn about masturbation" in class.

"What will we do, take out those students?" she asked.

"Sexual education is planned for all Quebec students," Ouellet said. The reasoning is that education is beneficial for "preventing sexual assaults, violence in romantic relationships, blood and sexually transmitted infections, and unwanted pregnancies." THE CANADIAN PRESS

ELECTION 2015

Mulcair's math is bad: Critics

Conservatives and Liberals ganged up Sunday on perceived frontrunner Tom Mulcair, claiming there's a multibillion-dollar hole in the NDP leader's election platform.

The two rival parties differed on precisely how deep that hole would be and on their suspicions of what Mulcair would do to dig himself out of it, but the message was the same.

Mulcair dismissed both the Liberal and Conservative numbers as fictional and called them a sign of desperation by rivals trying to blunt the NDP's early momentum in the marathon campaign to Oct. 19.

Liberals claimed there's a $28-billion gap between Mulcair's promises of new spending and his pledge that an NDP government could balance all its budgets over a four-year term. Jason Kenney, the Conservative defence minister, estimated at least an $8-billion gap in the first year of an NDP government.

"It's something that the Conservatives are making up," Mulcair said during a campaign stop in Halifax. "I am not going to be leaving this type of debt on the backs of future generations. I'll leave that to Mr. Harper and Mr. Trudeau."

Mulcair said the Conservatives' cost estimate includes "things that have been presented long in the past" by the NDP.

> **I am not going to be leaving this type of debt on the backs of future generations. I'll leave that to Mr. Harper and Mr. Trudeau.**
>
> NDP Leader Tom Mulcair responds to criticisms of his platform during a Halifax campaign stop

"It's an attempt to distract from things that are real, like the fact that Stephen Harper has run up $150 billion in debt while he's been the prime minister of Canada," said Mulcair.

As for the Liberals' estimate of a $28 billion gap, he added: "That one by the Liberals is so fanciful that it defies description."

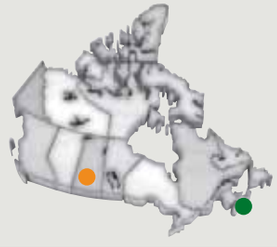
But Liberal MP John McCallum, a former economist, called on Mulcair to produce his math.

"He won't come clean about his math because the math doesn't add up. We know because we did the math for him," McCallum told a news conference.

McCallum said Mulcair would have to slash spending or break most of his promises if he's serious about balancing the budget next year.

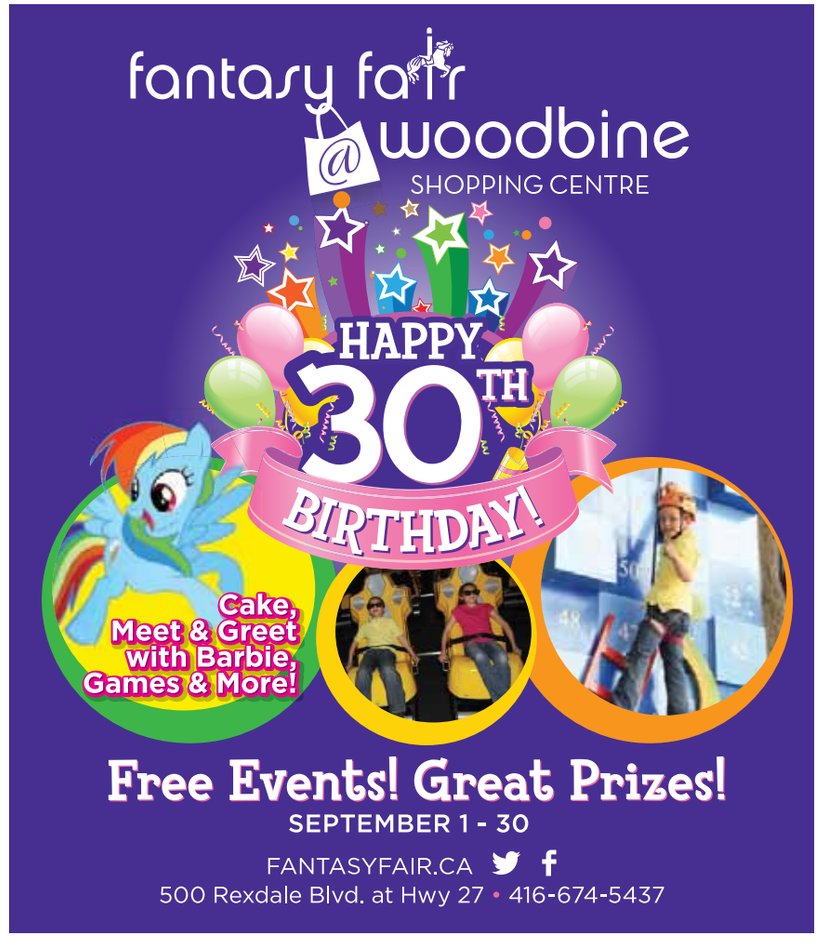
But Kenney posited a third possibility: that Mulcair is secretly planning to impose massive tax hikes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

WHERE THE LEADERS ARE MONDAY



- **Tom Mulcair** will be in Saskatoon, Sask., and Penticton, B.C.
- **Elizabeth May** will be at a rally in Halifax.

Itineraries for Stephen Harper and Justin Trudeau were unavailable.



John Casson poses for a selfie with a photographer at the entrance to the embassy in Cairo. MOHAMMED ASAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

'Shocked' by Fahmy trial: Ambassador

FOREIGN RELATIONS

British envoy's reaction to 'free speech' case criticized

Egypt's Foreign Ministry summoned the British ambassador in Cairo on Sunday to protest comments he made after a judge sentenced three Al-Jazeera English journalists to three years in prison each for reporting "false news."

The ministry said in a statement that John Casson's comments were "unacceptable interference" in the country's judiciary, and "incompatible with diplomatic norms and practices." In a post on Twitter, spokesman Ahmed Abu Zeid said Egypt "rejects any foreign criticism of judicial verdicts."

The court sentenced the Canadian Mohamed Fahmy, Australian Peter Greste and Egyptian Baher Mohammed on Saturday, reigniting international criticism over the long-running case and highlighting authorities' crackdown on free speech.

Speaking to television cameras in Arabic after the verdict, Casson said he was "shocked and concerned by the sentences," in a case that is of "profound interest to Egyptians because it has become a symbol of the basis for stability in the new Egypt."

I am concerned that today's ruling will undermine confidence in the basis of Egypt's stability, both in Egypt and abroad.
John Casson, British ambassador to Egypt

Several other foreign diplomats at the trial also condemned the verdict, but Casson may have been the only one to speak in Arabic to domestic television stations. The United States, the European Union, the United Nations and human rights advocacy groups and press freedom organizations also sharply criticized it.

Casson's comments were posted on the British Embassy's Facebook page and met with a wave of negative reaction in Arabic and English.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PALESTINE

Video of West Bank protest goes viral

A video showing an Israeli soldier scuffling with Palestinian women and youth at a West Bank protest has been viewed more than two million times on Facebook, shining a light on Israeli military policies in the territory.

In the edited video, the masked soldier is seen holding a 12-year-old boy, his arm in a cast, in a chokehold in an attempt to arrest him.

The soldier is swarmed by the boy's female relatives, including his mother and sister, who pull at his skin and uniform and slap him.

The boy's sister, a 15-year-old who is sporting a blond braid, is seen biting the soldier's hand.

Bystanders yell, "He is a little boy. His arm is broken."

The soldier struggles with the boy, and then the female crowd, which rips the mask off his face, for about a minute before a commanding officer arrives to assist him.

The soldier then frees himself and releases the boy, angrily throwing a small stun grenade at a group of people as he walks away.

The original video, which was provided to The Associated Press by its creator, local activist and the boy's relative Bilal Tamimi, showed the same footage.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

He is a little boy. His arm is broken.
Bystanders in the background of the video react to the assault

AUSTRIA

New suspect found in case of 71 deaths

A fifth man suspected of being involved in the deaths of 71 migrants found in a truck in neighbouring Austria has been detained, Hungarian police said Sunday.

The Bulgarian national was arrested on Saturday evening, a police statement said. Police said they will seek to have him held in custody on suspicion of human trafficking, but gave no further details about him.

On Saturday, a court in the central Hungarian city of Kecskemet, where prosecutors say the truck departed, placed four other suspects under preliminary arrest pending possible indictment in the case.

Three other Bulgarians and an Afghan were arrested Thursday in southern Hungary, after the truck with the dead migrants was found earlier that day parked along the Budapest-to-Vienna highway.

Austrian experts are performing autopsies on the migrant victims - 59 men, eight women and four children.

Austrian police have said the migrants likely suffocated to death. As of Sunday, 16 autopsies had been performed but there was no conclusive information yet on the cause of death, police spokeswoman Alexandra Hareter said. The process is expected to continue for several days.

The identity of the migrants remains unclear.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IMMIGRATION

Border wall 'legitimate': GOP candidate

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker is putting a new twist on the topic of securing the border, a staple among the GOP candidates running for president, by pointing north.

Walker said in an interview that aired Sunday that building a wall along the country's norther border with Canada is a legitimate issue that merits further review.

Republican candidates for president have often taken a get-tough approach on deterring illegal immigration, but they usually focus on the border with Mexico. Walker was asked Sunday morning on NBC's "Meet the Press" whether he wanted to build a wall on the northern border, too. Walker said some people in New Hampshire have asked the campaign about the topic.

"They raised some very legitimate concerns, including some law enforcement folks that brought that up to me at one of our town hall meetings about a week and a half ago. So that is a legitimate issue for us to look at," Walker said.

The U.S.-Canada boundary is the longest international border in the world at 5,525 miles long.

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker

Billionaire Donald Trump is riding the issue of illegal immigration to the top of the Republican presidential primary polls. He has said he would make Mexico pay for completing a permanent wall along the border. He also says he would also end automatic citizenship for those born in the United States, a right guaranteed by the 14th Amendment to the Constitution that was originally added to grant citizenship to freed slaves and their descendants after the Civil War. His positions appear to have pushed rivals to also take strong stands on immigration.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Officials confirm new Ebola death in Sierra Leone

Health officials in Sierra Leone on Sunday confirmed an Ebola death less than a week after the country's last known patient has been discharged from a hospital.

Samples from the body of a 67-year-old woman who died recently in Kambia district in the country's north.

The samples came back positive for the deadly disease, said chief medical officer Dr. Brima Kargbo.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Awakenings' author Oliver Sacks dies at 82

An author and neurologist who explored the wonders of the human brain in books like Awakenings has died. Dr. Oliver Sacks was 82.

Sack's assistant, Kate Edgar, says he died Sunday at his home in New York City.

His book Awakenings, about patients who spent years in a helpless, almost frozen state, was made into an Oscar-nominated 1990 movie starring Robin Williams. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS

Expert warns of fracking quakes

If the liquefied-natural-gas industry proceeds as the British Columbia government hopes, there could be five times as many fracking-caused earthquakes, warns one expert.

But the company that would provide gas to a major LNG terminal — the same company found responsible for a 4.4-magnitude tremor last year — claims it won't ramp up drilling. Progress Energy said it doesn't need to increase the number of wells it drills each year to supply Pacific North-West LNG's planned liquefaction and export terminal near Prince Rupert.

"Our upstream drilling activity will remain relatively consistent with current levels over the life of the LNG project or may even decline and therefore pose no incremental risk," said spokeswoman Stacie Dley in an email.

The company paused its operations after a 4.6 magnitude quake in northeast B.C. on Aug. 17. The B.C. Oil and Gas Commission is investigating and has not established its cause. The commission has, however, confirmed that Progress Energy triggered a 4.4 magnitude tremor last August — among the largest caused by the industry in Canada.

The $36-billion Pacific North-West LNG project is a cornerstone of the B.C. Liberals' efforts to build a new natural gas export industry to Asia. It has been approved by the province but remains under federal review.

David Hughes, a geoscientist who worked for the Geological Survey of Canada for 32 years, recently analyzed B.C.'s LNG plans for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

In order to meet the province's highest estimate of five terminals delivering 82 million tonnes of LNG a year, drilling would have to increase five-fold by 2020 — up to 2,100 wells per year, he said.

"If five terminals get built, get ready for some unavoidable seismic activity. I don't think there's any way you can stop it," he said.

Progress Energy said it doesn't need to drill greater numbers of wells each year because they can last decades. But Hughes said the structures decline quickly, with production falling up to 70 per cent after three years, and 288 new wells must be built each year to maintain current output.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BitGold builds app to link buyers to bullion dealers

INVESTING

Software lets users transfer holdings' value to credit card

Want to buy gold as a savings alternative? Well, you guessed it: there's an app for that.

Josh Crumb, co-founder of BitGold, says he created the software that automatically links buyers to bullion dealers and storage companies because he wanted to make it easier for people to own gold as a hedge against inflation and as a store of value.

"It's just so much easier, like everything else, to do it from your mobile phone," said Crumb.

The system charges a one per cent fee to exchange cash into gold and back but storage is free. It also allows users to transfer their gold value to a prepaid credit card, so they can actually buy a cup of coffee with their gold holdings, said Crumb.

"It gives the ability without having to go to coin shops and shave off some flakes of gold to buy something."

Crumb said he and co-founder Roy Sebag were inspired by the possibilities of Bitcoin, which allows global financial transactions without going through banking systems.

Like Bitcoin, BitGold allows free transfers between users, including an international money-transfer option that is in the works. But the key difference, says Crumb, is that Bitcoin will never be a store of value, while gold already is.

"We said, let's do everything Bitcoin is promising to do, but let's actually be able to do it by having a real currency."

The Toronto-based company began offering its service to the public in May and had already racked up more than 168,000 global users by the end of July, with about $7 million in transactions.

Crumb said the system should be popular with the fringe gold bugs who foresee the imminent collapse of the U.S. dollar and a rise in gold, but he wants to appeal to a wider base who will use it as a form of savings account.

"You don't buy gold to get rich like you're buying Apple Stock, you buy gold to protect your savings."

Most BitGold customers are in their forties or older, said Crumb, but he is seeing younger buyers who have never bought gold before.

"We are expanding the market because we're taking so much friction out of it."

But many financial advisers disagree that gold should be considered a prudent place to store wealth.

"The message of gold as a hedge against inflation is something that people sort of accepted as a given, but I think in the last 20 years it really hasn't been true," said Ted Rechtshaffen, president and CEO of TriDelta Financial.

He said gold has had volatile swings in value in recent years, while inflation has actually stayed quite low.

Rechtshaffen acknowledged that gold could be a good investment in countries where you can't trust your currency or government, but for Canadians it doesn't make much sense.

"I'm not saying gold is a bad investment, but gold as an alternative to cash or as a hedge against inflation, I just don't buy it."

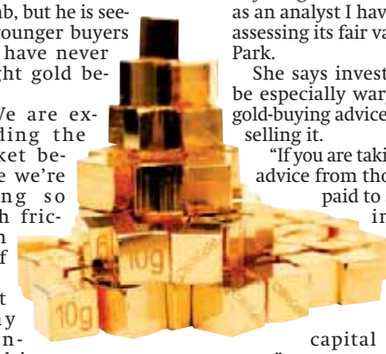
Danielle Park, a partner and portfolio manager at Venable Park Investment Counsel Inc., has outlined her skepticism of gold on her blog.

"Gold makes no sense to me as an investment. It pays nothing, it is not essential for anything in our economy and, as an analyst I have no way of assessing its fair value," wrote Park.

She says investors should be especially wary of taking gold-buying advice from those selling it.

"If you are taking your buy advice from those who are paid to sell you the investment products, you are putting yourself and your capital in harm's way." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Josh Crumb, co-founder of the Toronto-based company, says the inspiration for their project came from seeing the possibilities of Bitcoin. COURTESY BITGOLD



> **You don't buy gold to get rich like you're buying Apple Stock; you buy gold to protect your savings.**
> Josh Crumb, co-founder of BitGold

TECHNOLOGY

Virtual reality popularity grows

A few inches above the floor, a man is suspended from a swing-like apparatus, pretending he's flying over a mountain. Around the corner, a woman is defending herself against a horde of zombies with a make-believe gun. Several feet away, two guys are seemingly racing in cars over 160 km/h. They're each, in their own way, experiencing virtual reality.

At the third annual VRLA, a gathering of VR creators and enthusiasts in Southern California, the immersive technology transported more than 2,000 attendees beyond the walls of the Los Angeles Convention Center to other countries, worlds and dimensions. A few lines to try some of the VR experiences at the one-day event required wait times of over an hour.

"It really feels like the momentum has shifted," VRLA co-founder Cosmo Scharf told the sold-out crowd. "More people care about VR today than ever before." Scharf said there are currently 733 VR companies in the U.S. and VR startups have raised more than $800 million US in funding since 2010.

While VR on smartphones is now available with headsets like Google Cardboard, Samsung Gear VR and Noon VR, regular folks interested in higher fidelity and more interactive experiences must experiment with them at events such as VRLA — that is, until higher-powered systems are released to consumers next year.

Sony and Oculus VR, which is owned by Facebook, plan to launch retail editions of their VR headsets in early 2016, while Valve and HTC are expected to release their Vive system later this year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro VIEWS

Olé? No way: Spain's "summer of blood" — 8 humans dead from bull running so far — has many wondering if the sport's risks outweigh its entertainment and tourism value.

Metro MONDAY POLL

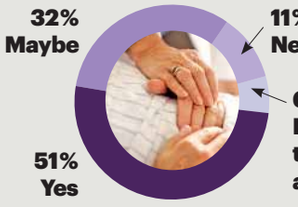
Life-and-death decisions

Visit metronews.ca **every Friday to have your say.**

The Supreme Court has ruled Canadians with "grievous and irremediable" medical conditions have the right to ask a doctor to help them die — and now doctors are deciding how they will answer that question. With no guarantee of federal legislation by the court's deadline of Feb. 6, 2016, the Canadian Medical Association met last week to discuss this legal, ethical and medical minefield. They've resolved that no doctor will have to do the procedure, but that it must be accessible for patients who qualify. While many of those facing painful and fatal illness such as Huntington's or ALS welcome the right to die when they choose, other people worry that the very ill and elderly will be pressured to go before their time. We asked our readers what they think.

1 Do you agree with the Supreme Court's decision?

2 Would you ever consider assisted suicide?



3 Have you told your family or friends what to do if you're too ill to communicate your wishes?

43% I don't have anything formal, but my loved ones know what I want.
25% I've left clear written instructions/a living will.
21% I've been putting off that conversation, but I know it's important.
11% I haven't told anyone what end-of-life care I want, but I'm not concerned about it.

The budgeting problem that must not be named

TORY'S TORONTO

Matt Elliott

With hot condo markets and zany-low interest rates, a lot of Canadians, for better or for worse, have tied their financial futures to the real estate market.

Like, for instance, Toronto's municipal government.

Last week, the city released its operating budget variance report for the first six months of 2015. Like past years, it's projecting a surplus for the year — of about $65 million. But also like past years, the surplus is driven almost entirely by Toronto's municipal land transfer tax.

Or, in other words, real estate.

A bit of background: Toronto is the only municipality in Ontario to levy a land transfer tax. If you buy a house or condo in this city, you pay the tax. On a $500,000 property, the cost works out to $5,725, according to the Toronto Real Estate Board's calculator.

In 2009 — the year after the tax was introduced — total land transfer revenues were projected at $160 million. Since then, the yearly haul has tripled. The new variance report suggests the city will take in $487 million this year.

In next year's budget, it's a safe assumption the land transfer tax will account for half a billion dollars — about five per cent of all city revenue.

If I sound negative, it's not because I don't support the existence of Toronto's land transfer tax. I do. I've defended it often. But the city's increasing reliance on the tax is making me nervous.

When the tax was introduced alongside the vehicle registration tax, the city had a strategy to diversify its revenue streams. Instead of paying for most programs with property taxes, the idea was to add new sources of revenue. There was even talk of adding a city sales tax.

But it wasn't long before both the vehicle tax and the diversification strategy were tossed aside. What remained was an ad-hoc strategy in which Toronto's very low property taxes are subsidized by ever-increasing land transfer tax revenues.

This is especially concerning because the land transfer tax is a tax on transactions. It doesn't just require that home prices stay high, it also requires that homes are being bought and sold at rapid rates.

It seems reasonable to wonder what will happen if and when things slow down.

And though no one wants to talk about it, it's even worth considering the Voldemort scenario — the one no one wants to name.

What if things crash? What happens if Toronto's $500 million budget windfall suddenly becomes a $500 million budget hole? What happens if, suddenly, Toronto's transit, libraries and social services can't be funded by real estate cash?

What happens if, suddenly, Toronto's transit, libraries and social services can't be funded by real estate cash?

Right now, Toronto's government, like most who have invested big in real estate, is betting a crash or slowdown won't happen.

But that's a gamble that won't pay off forever.

Matt Elliott lives and writes in Toronto. Follow him on Twitter @GraphicMatt

metroview

Why does picking my battles make me feel like I've lost the war?

Matt LaForge
Metro | Toronto

We all want to make social progress, and most of us are even willing to fight for it.

One reason we don't is that picking battles is almost as hard as fighting them.

I thought of this on Saturday at the Jays game in Toronto, where I found myself watching six police officers violently subdue a fan.

I was buying a shirt when I looked to my left and saw the police hustle a sandy-haired, ropey-muscled lad out of a bathroom and into the exit tunnel. He flailed and cursed. A none-too-rare tableau at pro-sports venues — a routine collaring of a Rowdy Dude. An instant's distraction, nothing more.

I was returning to my seat and forgetting about the whole thing when, seconds later, I heard more yelling, turned around and saw the guy right behind me with half a dozen uniforms in hot pursuit. He'd bolted. The cops tackled him into a prone position, knees to his back, arms pressed against his neck. "Stop resisting!" "I'm not f—cking resisting!" Additional ambient cursing, sources unknown. A minute-long struggle.

One of the poor guy's outraged friends started shooting video of this second phase of the encounter. In a fit of mild civic righteousness, I followed suit. Predictably, backs stiffened. To record police is, as far as some are concerned, to impugn police. A middle-aged man standing nearby didn't appreciate what I was doing and told me so. In response, I ad libbed something about people behaving better when they know they're being watched.

Pretty big talk. You'd have thought I was shooting the Rodney King video. Not exactly. A few salient details I haven't yet mentioned: The perp, who was white, had evidently been grabbed at a vulnerable moment — his belt was undone and his unfastened pants were riding low around his thighs; one of his shoes was missing; and when he was back on his feet, he yelled, "All this because of an e-cigarette, are you kidding me? You guys are f—ed!"

Seems he'd been vaping in the men's room. This was Trailer Park Boys stuff. This was the tragedy of King — and Eric Garner, Samuel DuBose and Jermaine Carby — repeating itself as low-stakes farce, with posturing and overreaction on all sides: The cops threw a hockey team's worth of personnel and aggression at a clandestine e-smoker; we bystanders with iPhone cameras rolling got too full of ourselves; the police apologists in the vicinity turned a blind eye to pain in the name of public order; and the vaper himself acted like a political prisoner.

I spent the rest of the game feeling the shame of the busybody. It's the kind of shame that advises against future involvement in other people's business. And its lasting effect is that, when something actually important happens, nothing important might be done about it.

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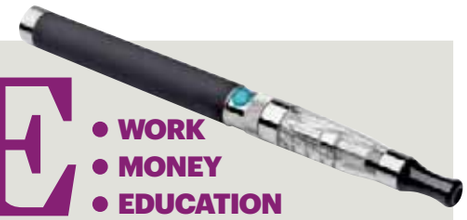


Parents not aware of e-cig dangers, study says

Megan Haynes
For Metro Canada

LIFE OUT OF ORDER

Millennials are not following the traditional path toward adulthood, but in their wayward march they may be redefining what a successful life looks like

Cherisse Feldberg, 31, still imagines her wedding day. She wants a mermaid-style dress, her bridesmaids will wear red and it'll be a small affair — a crowd that can fit comfortably in her backyard.

It's been almost six years since she got engaged, and the wedding seems increasingly out of reach.

First, her fiancé's father got sick, then they inherited the house (and the debt) in Golden, B.C., which meant pushing off the wedding for a year. Then she had a baby, and the ceremony got bumped again. And then another baby, and again, another delay. She says she wasn't financially prepared for the turn of events.

Feldberg is part of a growing cohort of millennials opting to undertake so-called markers of adulthood out of order.

A new study by TD found 52 per cent of millennials are on track to complete their life goals — but not according to their plan. And many are facing unexpected costs as a result.

One of the issues is millennials are still saving for these big expenses as though they were going to go about it in the traditional order (that is graduate, move out and gain financial independence, get married, buy a home, have a kid), says Lee Bennett, senior vice-president of TD's wealth and financial planning group.

"It's not that they have less money, they just have less time to put money away," says Bennett. What's more, many underestimate the cost of these life events, Bennett says.

For example, raising a child can run $13,000 a year, according to one estimate from MoneySense magazine. And as of July 2015, the average price of a Canadian home stands at $437,135, (up from about $150,00 in 2000).

Even the cost of education is rising — the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives found tuition has nearly tripled over the past 20 years, with average student debt hovering in the mid- to high-$20,000 range.

And millennials' salaries haven't kept pace, increasing only $1,000 (adjusted for inflation) when compared to their parents' generation 30 years prior, according to a 2014 study by BMO.

The recession hasn't helped, either: unemployment levels among 15- to 24-year-olds has hovered around 13 per cent since the 2008 financial meltdown. That statistic doesn't take into account youth underemployment (taking jobs for which they are overqualified), which is an estimated 27 per cent. And keeping up with everyday expenses means it can be even more difficult to save for the next stage.

The transition (to adulthood) has been stretched over time to the point where it isn't fully happening.
Johanna Faigelman, cultural anthropologist

Feldberg says this is exactly what happened to her.

"There's too many reasons to keep putting the wedding off," she says. "It would have been easier to do it in (2009) when there was no house, no kids. Now there are other priorities — we needed a new kitchen, the kids have to go on a family holiday. A wedding takes last place to everything else."

That's not to say millennials are moping about the unexpected turn of events, says Johanna Faigelman, a cultural anthropologist who studies this cohort extensively as the president of marketing research firm Human Branding.

Adulthood, she says, is a social construct: the transition from frivolous, happiness-seeking teenager to grownup contributing member of society.

"But the transition has been stretched over time to the point where it isn't fully happening," says Faigelman.

As of 2011, 42 per cent of people in their 20s lived with their parents, compared to 27 per cent in 1981. And millennials are putting off marriage as well. In 2008, the average age of newlyweds was 30 compared to 23 in 1972, according to Statistics Canada.

Yet, delaying adulthood is not necessarily by choice. One study by the Pew Research Center found one-third of millennials want to get married or have a baby, but are putting it off for financial reasons. Half of the people surveyed said they work jobs that don't appeal to them in order to pay the bills.

Psychology professor Jeffrey Arnett at Clark University in Worcester, Mass. has said changes in society (such as the need for more education, fewer entry-level jobs and a delay in having children in favour of focusing on careers) have created a new stage called "emerging adulthood."

"'Adulthood' was the end of all the foolish things like living your dream, pursuing your happiness. It meant that corner office, white picket fence and two-point-five kids," Faigelman says. But, she adds, millennials don't want financial obligations like mortgages to stop their pursuit of happiness.

Arnett's research backs that up, and while "emerging adults" tend to feel psychological instability and a sense of being "in-between," there is also a focus on identity exploration and a sense of what's possible.

One 2012 study by the Pew Research Center found 89 per cent of millennials aren't worried about being able to afford the life they want.

Faigelman reasons this is because millennials are shifting their definitions of what they want in life; what makes for a "successful" adulthood.

"(Millennials) might see the value in owning a house, but (say) 'Maybe it's not for me, I'd rather pay for experiences and travel, and have that enrich my life,'" she says.

Rather than focus on the house or wedding they wanted, but can't afford, this cohort has adapted, taking the unplanned events and making them markers of success, she says.

"I still want the wedding dress, the first dance and that memory," says Feldberg of her far-off wedding. "But our priorities are saving up for a bigger home, and saving for our kids' school fund, so they can do whatever they want — that's what matters."

$ SAVINGS PLAN

Expecting the unexpected

- Bennett says it's never too early to start saving and no dollar amount it too small. "Even $25 is a good amount," she says.
- Have a plan on how to save for the next life event, she says. While a couple may intend to get married first, if that dream house comes up, at least there is some money in the bank should they want to pounce.
- This means constantly re-evaluating plans, she adds. As soon as people start realizing their life plan is shifting, it's time to revisit their savings goals. "It's not a once-and-done," she says.

MEGAN HAYNES/FOR METRO

5 THINGS TO WATCH FOR IN THE ECONOMY

Did Canada fall into a recession? That question has been the source of heated discussion in recent months. Here are five things to watch for in the news this week that might help shed light on the situation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1 THE GDP

On Tuesday, Statistics Canada will announce the gross domestic product for the second quarter of this year. A recession is defined as two consecutive quarters of negative growth. Some economists say Canada likely met the technical definition of a recession but without some of the classic hallmarks of a severe downturn.

2 ALBERTA FISCAL UPDATE

A financial report from Alberta on Monday should offer a glimpse into how the provincial government has been faring amid low crude prices. Finance Minister Joe Ceci will be expected to address how the NDP government plans to regain its fiscal footing. "You can't call it a Canadian recession. You can call it an Alberta recession," said Bank of Montreal senior economist Robert Kavcic. "There's still 75 per cent of the Canadian economy that's not tied to the energy sector geographically."

3 CONVENIENCE STORE GIANT

Quebec-based convenience store operator Alimentation Couche-Tard will report its first-quarter results on Tuesday. In July, the owner of Mac's and Couche-Tarde stores said its U.S. operation — where it operates mostly as Circle K — had its best quarterly performance since the financial crisis of 2008.

4 SEARS CANADA EARNINGS

The Toronto-based retailer reports it second-quarter earnings Wednesday. Things haven't looked bright for the department store chain, which posted a $59.1 million loss in the previous quarter. The company is also on the search for a new CEO after the departure of Ronald Boire — the third to leave the job suddenly in two years.

5 JOBS

Many will be watching when Statistics Canada releases the jobs figures for August on Friday, particularly as they come in a federal election campaign where the economy has been a central issue. The country's unemployment rate has been stuck at 6.8 per cent for six months, so observers will be looking out for any signs of movement.

6.8%
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

EDUCATION

Can you get rid of student loans by declaring bankruptcy?

I have such fond memories of that glorious stretch of days when bar tabs and restaurant receipts were no obstacle. I'm referring of course to the beginning of the school year, when summer job money hadn't yet evaporated and then the glorious lump-sum student loan cash would fall from the heavens. Of course, those fond daydreams can quickly become nightmares if student loan debt isn't taken care of properly.

Even as financially illiterate as I was when I went through my university adventures, I still remember being shocked at the number of students who weren't really sure what a student loan was, other than a way to get money into their bank account. They didn't totally know if they ever had to pay it back, and since seemingly everyone was getting one, they couldn't be that bad, right?

Many of us are now finding out that it can definitely be that bad. As students head back to campuses across Canada, there is no shortage of factual evidence that young Canadians are piling on debt like never before. This is bad news for them, and it could be bad news for their lender — you and me.

That's right: If you pay taxes in Canada, you're helping to lend money to students for post-secondary school, and who are deemed to need the loan.

Because the government knows we might get a little testy if our tax dollars aren't paid back, (we're already directly footing the bill for a large part of every university and college's budget, after all) it's pretty adamant that once you reach the light at the end of the tunnel and get your cap and gown, you need to jump right into your professional career and start repaying your debt.

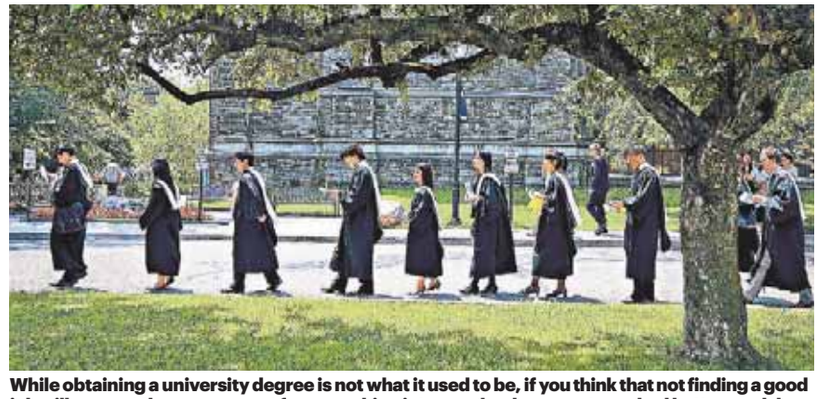
The obvious problem is that the assumed career pot of gold at the end of post-secondary rainbow appears to be getting more and more elusive. But if you think not finding a good job will prevent the government from reaching into your bank account, you better read the fine print.

Student loan debt is one of the most difficult financial situations to get out of. Companies can use all sorts of fancy bankruptcy options to fold, restructure, or otherwise hold creditors at bay. Even credit card debt and car loans can be forgiven in a less-than-ideal scenario when someone declares personal bankruptcy.

Student debt is like that D on your transcript from that first-year course you never woke up for: It will stay with you forever. Declaring bankruptcy won't erase the debt, and the earliest most people can go about getting their student debt forgiven is seven years after they graduate.

Only in very selective cases of "hardship" (an extremely difficult status to attain) will that seven-year period be shortened to five years. Even after the seven-year mark, declaring bankruptcy, selling all of your possessions, and begging to be given a fresh start doesn't always result in a clean slate. Governments can garnish your tax returns while penalizing you in other ways.

Proving hardship is much more difficult than simply saying you haven't found your dream job yet. If you're still in school, be careful when the balance in your chequing account suddenly hits new highs — the piper will be paid one way or another someday — and "someday" comes sooner than many would ever expect.



While obtaining a university degree is not what it used to be, if you think that not finding a good job will prevent the government from reaching into your bank account, you had better read the fine print. ISTOCK

$ IN BRIEF

- Student loan debt is rarely forgiven and is harder to get rid of than almost any other type of debt.
- The government will go to great lengths to make sure it gets paid.
- Trying to claim "hardship" status as a means of getting out of student debt is extremely difficult.

Are you an older adult with cancer, or a caregiver of someone who is?
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BEYONCÉ 101

Two Canadian campuses offer courses on the pop superstar

GETTY IMAGES

With the release of every new track, magazine cover and Instagram post, Beyoncé's every move sparks endless chatter on social media.

Soon they'll also be discussed in some Canadian classrooms.

The University of Victoria and the University of Waterloo have dedicated courses to exploring the career of the superstar, who turns 34 on Sept. 4.

"I just thought she would be an artist that a lot of the students — especially in this young 20s age range — would be able to identify with.... They've pretty much had Beyoncé in their lives their entire lives," said University of Victoria lecturer Melissa Avdeeff, whose course debuted in January and will return this fall.

The introductory music course touched on everything from music video analysis to feminism and gender studies, tracking Beyoncé's career trajectory from her girl-group days with Destiny's Child to solo stardom.

"She's an artist that has stayed relevant culturally. She's had her hand in a lot of different cultural aspects — not just her music," said Avdeeff.

Avdeeff said she devoted a section of her inaugural class to addressing criticisms of the course, including negative remarks posted in response to a Globe and Mail article.

"It's good to document culture as it's happening so we have this record, so we see what's happened, so we see how it's reflecting in our society as we're living it."

Most recently, Beyoncé's decision to stay relatively mum in the media is generating even more press.

She graces the cover of Vogue's famed September issue, but without being interviewed. A recent New York Times story examining Beyoncé's media moves said she hasn't answered a direct question for more than a year.

> **As a performance studies scholar, it was interesting to think of an entire album as being a visual performance.**
> Waterloo course instructor Naila Keleta-Mae

While she has 44.2 million Instagram users and regularly posts candid images, there is rarely — if ever — text to accompany the photos. Beyoncé also hasn't tweeted from her official account since August 2013.

It will be her music that will be the prime focus of Gender and Performance, debuting at the University of Waterloo this fall.

The course, being offered by the school's drama and speech communication department, will centre on Beyoncé's self-titled visual album, analyzing videos and looking at performance study models, feminist and race theories in the context of her work.

"This album, I think, operates on many platforms," said assistant professor and course instructor Naila Keleta-Mae, an award-winning performance poet and playwright.

"She spoke about wanting all of these videos ... thought about as a movie of sorts. And so for me, as a performance studies scholar, it was interesting to think of an entire album as being a visual performance."

In a mini-feature about the album, Beyoncé spoke of watching videos on YouTube to learn about feminism. She came across a speech on the subject by Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and wound up sampling a clip from it in her feminist anthem Flawless.

Keleta-Mae said Beyoncé's use of digital media as an informational resource "speaks a lot to the moment that we're in," noting that it's an approach being embraced by students — and one that the academic world should also note.

"Whether or not scholars across the country like it, when our students are turning in papers, they're quoting Wikipedia and YouTube. When they want to get the definition of something they're going to Dictionary.com," Keleta-Mae said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Dope on when kids try drugs

Parents worried that their college-bound children might succumb to the temptations of campus life may want to take note of a new U.S. analysis that found that students tend to experiment with specific types of drugs for the first time during certain times of year.

College students tend to try stimulants such as Adderall and Ritalin for the first time in November, December or April, according to the examination of 12 years of U.S. government survey data. They may believe the attention deficit disorder medications will help them ace their exams, even though there is no medical evidence that such drugs enhance performance and such drugs can be addictive.

Students are most likely to try marijuana, inhalants and alcohol for the first time during the summer, not the school year, according to the report released lat week by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, which examined data from the annual National Survey on Drug Use and Health. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FIRST-TIME USE

Peak months by drug type

• First use of cigarettes peaks in June, September and October. • Underage college students who have never tried alcohol before are most likely to have it for the first time in June. • First-time use of cigars, marijuana and inhalants is highest in June and July. • The first non-medical use of prescription painkillers happens most often in December.

STEM CAREERS

Nas funds coding scholarships

Learning to code may be the best career move you'll ever make.

Not only do web developers earn good money (starting at $80,000 in New York City), but they're also extremely happy, with 88 per cent reporting feeling satisfied in their jobs. (Of course, you would be too if your job consisted of creating video games.)

But — like all STEM careers — coding jobs do skew male, and skew white.

Now, according to The Root, rapper and Queens native Nas is giving scholarships to blacks and Latinos to attend coding school at General Assembly, which has locations in major cities across the U.S.

Rapper Nas gives support to blacks and Latinos who want learn how to code. GETTY IMAGES

Nas is giving out the funding via his VC firm Queensbridge Venture Partners. Queensbridge will be joining Microsoft and Google to help get more underrepresented groups into coding.

Microsoft will be doling out scholarships to vets, while Google will be donating scholarship money for women.

RAQUEL LANERI/METRO IN NEW YORK

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Rudeness may be contagious

STUDY

Like the common cold, disrespect spreads

OFFICE RELATIONS
Eleni Deacon

When a colleague is popping COLD-FX and filling their garbage with snotty Kleenex, you'll probably try to steer clear of their desk.

And while they might interpret your aloofness as rudeness, you might consider in-your-face sneezing to be impolite, as well. But what if germs weren't the only contagious workplace threats? According to a new study, rudeness itself is catching.

In a recent article from the Journal of Applied Psychology, researchers from the University of Florida tracked 90 students as they practised negotiation with different partners. Their findings: When a student perceived one partner as rude, they themselves were far more likely to be considered rude by a subsequent partner.

Like a microbe jumping from one sinus-clogged co-worker to the next, disrespect spreads.

This discovery suggests it could be worthwhile to rethink how we understand and respond to rude colleagues. According to the study's researchers, rudeness is transmitted subconsciously. When a workmate dishes a passive-aggressive comment about the smell of your lunch, you don't make an intentional decision to shoot down everyone's ideas in your afternoon meeting — it just happens, due to automatic mechanisms in your brain. And while we can't control our subconscious, we can approach rudeness with new awareness.

When faced with a snide remark or standoffish greeting, it's normal to focus on the perpetrator. Rather than fixating on how to zap your offender's bad vibes, however, consider how to harness your own. It's possible to develop strong personal guidelines for how you want to treat and speak to your colleagues, returning to these standards whenever you encounter snippy or aggressive conduct.

Even when you're having a particularly grouchy day, you can engage specific actions that are simple to adopt such as a neutral tone of voice, an open posture, and a not-scowling facial expression.

It's not just emotionally unpleasant to be on the receiving end of rudeness — it can put a dent in your efficiency. Though eye rolls can be satisfying, committing to cordiality is a more effective to way to maintain productivity by preventing rudeness from taking root. You might even discover that politeness is contagious, too.

Like a microbe jumping from one sinus-clogged coworker to the next, disrespect in the workplace spreads, according to a new study in the Journal of Applied Psychology. ISTOCK

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BOOKS

Love is nice, but so's a paycheque

Raquel Laneri
Metro in New York

Listen to enough TED talks or commencement speeches, and you'll think that you should love your job and anything less is selling yourself short.

But Miya Tokumitsu wants to push back against this mantra.

"As someone with one foot in academia and the other in the arts, I would hear lots of things like, 'Oh, we're not in it for the money,' or, 'Well, you shouldn't expect to get a decent-paying job right away,'" says the Jacobin magazine contributor and art history PhD. "I think those kinds of exploitative messages come from this idea of 'Do what you love.' And they're not only unrealistic; they're also harmful."

Tokumitsu, who teaches history at the University of Melbourne, has written a book on the subject called Do What You Love: And Other Lies About Success and Happiness. So, what does she tell her starry-eyed undergrads when they want career advice? We asked her.

There's nothing wrong with working for money

Tokumitsu's main problem with the 'Do what you love' mantra is that it treats people who take jobs because they need to pay rent or feed their family as somewhat inferior. And, since pursuing a college education nowadays virtually guarantees you'll be saddled with enormous debt, graduates — except for the privileged few — can't afford to be too precious about their jobs.

Author Miya Tokumitsu says a 'Do what you love' mantra can be harmful.

"The plain fact is in the current world in which we live, you need to earn wages to meet your basic needs, and that is the primary reason why people work," Tokumitsu says.

Let your work serve you

In fact, there are other ways to derive pleasure from work without it coming from what you actually do in your 9-to-whenever. "You can get satisfaction just from knowing you can take care of yourself and take care of others, or that your job allows you the means to do other things you love, like spending time with your loved ones," says Tokumitsu.

Love takes time

There's nothing wrong with pursuing your interests — or a career that you think you'll find fulfilling. But, the idea that you're going to fall in love with your job on Day 1 is just unrealistic.

"The main thing I would say to a 22- or 23-year-old is that love takes time," says Tokumitsu. "And that kind of pleasure from work can exist, but I feel like it comes a little bit later, after you've gained some experience, after you've made some mistakes and you've gained some skills. Don't say, after six months, 'Ugh, this stinks.'"

It's not all about you

When applying for — or settling on — a job, sometimes there are more important factors than just the amount of pleasure you'll personally get from it. "Think of the work you're doing not so much as something that's for you and for your pleasure but as a contribution that you're making to society," advises Tokumitsu.

SPLITSVILLE, AGAIN

Robin fosters doubt

I'm starting to have trouble keeping up with this one. So: In January 2014, House of Cards star Robin Wright and boyfriend Ben Foster announced they were engaged, but come November 2014 they'd called it off. But then in January of this year they were back together, with plans to tie the knot back on and everything, reuniting publicly on the Golden Globes red carpet. Well, apparently it didn't stick, as E! News reports that they've broken up and called off the wedding plans yet again. And apparently this time they've been keeping quiet about it, as the split reportedly happened a couple of months ago. Who wants to start taking bets about when they'll be back together? I'm going to go with by the Emmys next month. NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

NEW ROMANCE

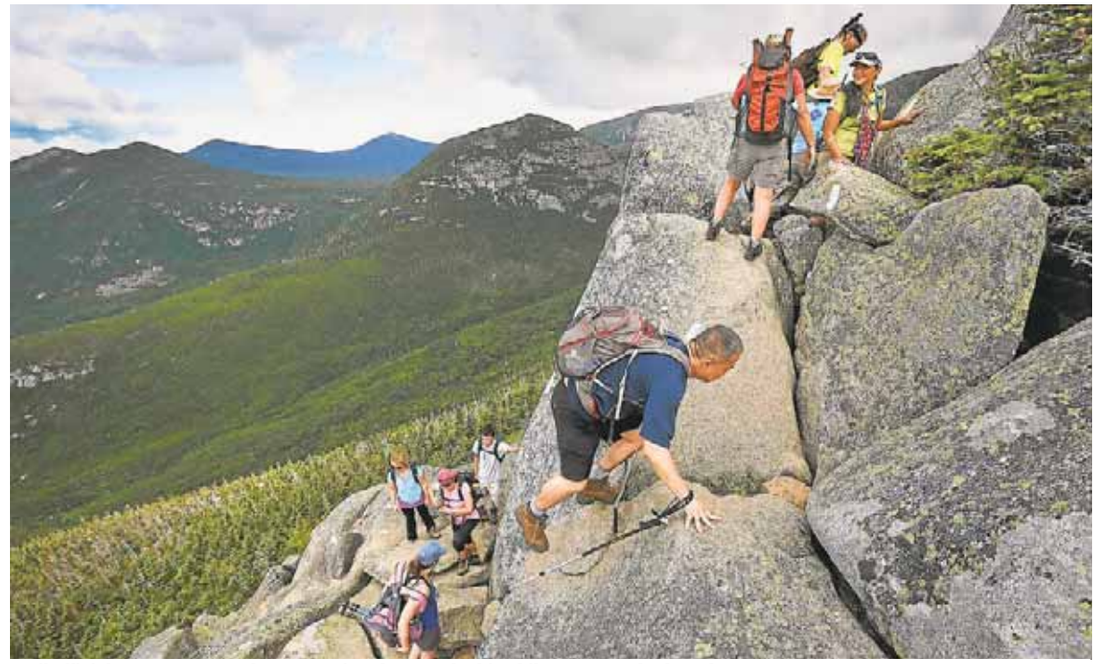
Sandy's arm candy

Sorry, guys. Sandra Bullock is taken. The Oscar-winning actress has been pretty quiet about her personal life since her marriage to Jesse James imploded back in 2010 and adopting son Louis that same year, and now People magazine reports that she's been quietly dating photographer and model Bryan Randall for "several months." Several months! Several! Things are apparently going so well between the couple — who were spotted out having a romantic dinner late last week — that Bullock reportedly brought Randall along as her date to Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux's secret backyard wedding earlier this month. NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

BIG BROTHER BOOT

Tila's past bites back

Hey, remember Tila Tequila? We haven't heard from her in a while. Well apparently she was, until very recently, a part of the new season of Celebrity Big Brother in the U.K., but producers decided to give her the boot a bit early — and not because she didn't qualify for the "celebrity" part of the title. The MySpace-spawned personality earned the ire of the show's team because of a 2013 Facebook rant defending Adolf Hitler. "When (it was) brought to our attention, she was called to the Diary Room for a discussion with producers and was subsequently removed from the house," a spokesman tells the Independent. But don't worry, the new season still has such luminaries as Daniel Baldwin, Jenna Jameson and Teen Mom star Farrah Abraham. NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD



Trail officials say some people are treating the Appalachian hike as a months-long frat party. ROBERT F. BUKATY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Take a hike! Parks not wild about 'tude

A WALK IN THE WOODS

Concern about bad behaviour grows as use of trails explodes

With last year's release of the movie Wild about a woman's journey on the Pacific Crest Trail, and what experts call a growing interest in outdoor activities, the number of people on the Appalachian Trail has exploded.

And the numbers are only expected to climb further after A Walk in the Woods — a movie based on the 1998 Bill Bryson book about the Appalachian Trail — hits theatres this week.

The growing number of hikers is becoming a management nightmare at Maine's Baxter State Park, home to the trail's final summit on Mount Katahdin, officials say hikers are flouting park rules by openly using drugs and drinking alcohol, camping where they aren't supposed to, and trying to pass their pets off as service dogs.

Officials say they also believe the culture and attitude of the people using the footpath is changing.

Jensen Bissell, director of the park, said in a letter to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy late last year that hikers are "open and deliberate in their desire for freedom from all rules and regulations." He warns that the trail may need to end somewhere besides Katahdin if something doesn't change soon.

Reese Witherspoon in Wild. CONTRIBUTED

"If we have 2,000 hikers now, how will it be when we have 3,500 or 4,000 hikers?" Bissell said.

More than 830 people completed the 2,189-mile hike last year, up from just 182 in 1990, according to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, based in Harpers Ferry, West Va. At Baxter, the number of registered long-distance hikers grew from 359 in 1991 to more than 2,000 in 2014.

Hundreds of miles away, misbehaving hikers contributed to a small Pennsylvania community's recent decision to shutter the sleeping quarters it had offered for decades in the basement of its municipal building.

Some say there appears to be a growing sense of entitlement among hikers, many of whom are just out of college or have enough money to leave work for months at a time.

"We had to take off half a year of working, and not a lot of people can do that," Karl Berger, a 24-year-old Maine resident known on the trail as GQ, said from a camp site in Baxter, where he was resting with his father before finishing the hike up Katahdin.

"I don't think a lot of hikers acknowledge that it's a privilege to be out here."

Many hikers said they believe the concerns are being overblown. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOSSIP BRIEFS

Two Marines woo Rousey to be their date at USMC ball

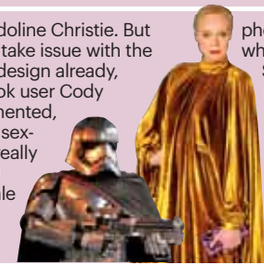
Hey, remember that trend of Marines taking to social media to ask famous people — like Mila Kunis, Kim Kardashian and Justin Timberlake — to be their dates to the USMC Ball?

Well, it's back. This time, U.S. Marine Corps member Jarrod Haschert is hoping his video proposal makes its way to UFC champ Ronda Rousey — when she's in a good mood, at least.

Here's the thing, though: Another Marine, Guam-based Sgt. Thomas Pereda, already put out a video asking Rousey earlier this month, and I'd find it tough to believe they're the only Corps members with their eye on her. This could get awkward. NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

Empire strikes back in Phasma-tic way

All we know about the new Star Wars movie character named Captain Phasma is that she's a high-ranking baddie in a chrome Stormtrooper uniform that comes with a kicky cape. Oh, and that she's played by Game of Thrones star Gwendoline Christie. But some fans take issue with the character design already, as Facebook user Cody Paul commented, "Not to be sexist but it's really hard to tell that's female armor for me" on a photo of Phasma. Well, whoever's handling the Star Wars Facebook page is awesome, because they replied simply, "It's armor. On a woman. It doesn't have to look feminine." Right on. NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD



Tokyo won the Little League World Series, overcoming an eight-run deficit to beat Lewisbury 18-11

Jays keep rolling, pound Tigers

MLB

AL East leaders have 'feel of a championship team' this year

When Mark Buehrle won a World Series with the Chicago White Sox in 2005, he constantly felt like no matter the deficit they would win the game. The 2015 Toronto Blue Jays are similar, only with a super-sized offence.

"Here, shoot, if we don't score eight runs, we had a bad day," Buehrle said after a 9-2 win against the Detroit Tigers on Sunday afternoon at Rogers Centre. "We're confident. We're coming to the field every day thinking we're going to win."

The Blue Jays have reason to feel that way. After sweeping the Tigers, they're 21-5 in August and lead the American League East by 1-1/2 games over the New York Yankees.

On Sunday, Toronto provided everything that has become commonplace since a flurry of pre-trade-deadline moves: an offensive onslaught, strong pitching and reliable defence in front of a sellout crowd. Russell Martin and Kevin Pillar each hit a two-run home run, Josh Donaldson and Edwin Encarnacion each had a solo shot, and the Blue Jays added to their major-league best run production.

"If this isn't the feel of a championship team, I don't know what is," Martin said. "I feel like we're great offensively, we're great on defence, we're pitching great, our bullpen has depth. I like what we have going right now."

It's hard not to like what the Blue Jays have going. They've been dominant in the month since acquiring shortstop Troy Tulowitzki, ace David Price, outfielder Ben Revere and relievers LaTroy Hawkins and Mark Lowe. Confidence is at an all-time high, something manager John Gibbons credits those trades for.

"With the trades (for) Tulowitzki, Price, Hawkins, Lowe, Revere, (infielder Cliff) Pennington, we just took off after they happened," Gibbons said. "I don't know how it could but the addition of those guys that has pushed us to this point. It gave everybody a shot in the arm."

While Tulowitzki has struggled at the plate, his defence remains a major upgrade over Jose Reyes. Tulowitzki doubled Sunday after Gibbons moved him down from the leadoff spot to fifth in the order. Revere went 0-for-4 with a walk in the No. 1 hole, but that didn't stunt the Blue Jays' production at all.

In a lineup that has become a modern-day murderer's row, Encarnacion continued his torrid hitting by going 2-for-3 with his 30th home run of the season. He extended his hitting streak to 25 games and is three short of Shawn Green's franchise record set in 1999.

Encarnacion is hitting .409 with 11 home runs and 35 RBIs in that time. His first-inning home run gave him 35 RBIs in August, setting a Blue Jays record for any month, and he has an extra-base hit in eight straight games.

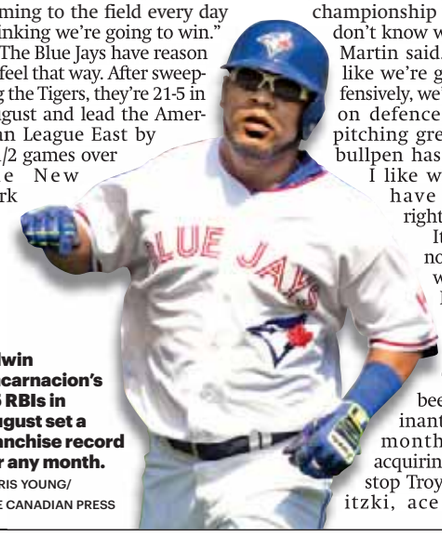
In Saturday's 15-1 rout of the Tigers, Encarnacion hit a two-run home run, a three-run home run and a grand slam.

With nine RBIs, Encarnacion tied Roy Howell's single-game franchise record from 1977. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SUNDAY In Toronto

9	2
BLUE JAYS	TIGERS

Kevin Pillar, left, Ben Revere, Jose Bautista and Troy Tulowitzki celebrate Sunday's win at the Rogers Centre.
COLE BURSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Edwin Encarnacion's 35 RBIs in August set a franchise record for any month.
CHRIS YOUNG/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **When these guys are out there scoring that many runs, it makes it a lot easier.**
> Mark Buehrle (14-6), who cruised through six-plus innings, allowing one earned run on five hits

Yankees cap series by drubbing Braves

Jacoby Ellsbury hit a three-run homer, Chase Headley and Stephen Drew each added a two-run shot and the New York Yankees routed the Atlanta Braves 20-6 on Sunday to finish a three-game sweep.

All three homers, which helped build an 8-2 lead, came with two outs. Headley and Drew both drove in four runs.

After the Braves cut the lead to 8-5, pinch-hitter Alex Rodriguez drove in two runs with a bases-loaded single in the Yankees' nine-run seventh inning.

The Yankees almost matched their season high for runs set in a 21-5 win at Texas on July 28. They scored 38 runs in the series. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

5

The Braves have lost five straight and 12 of 13. They have also dropped nine consecutive inter-league games.

BASEBALL IN BRIEF

60-year-old identified as fan who died from fall

The U.S. flag flew at half-staff at Atlanta's Turner Field on Sunday, one day after a fan died following his fall from the upper deck into the lower-level stands during a game between the Braves and New York Yankees.

Mary Beth Hauptle, an investigator with the Fulton County Medical Examiner, identified the victim as Gregory K. Murrey, 60, of Alpharetta, Ga. Murrey was pronounced dead at a nearby hospital. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Indians ground Angels for their fifth straight win

Abraham Almonte hit his first career grand slam and Josh Tomlin worked into the eighth inning, leading the Cleveland Indians to a 9-2 win over the slumping Los Angeles Angels on Sunday.

Almonte's fifth-inning homer off Jered Weaver broke open a close game and sent Cleveland to its fifth straight win.

The Angels (65-65) have dropped eight of 10 to fall back to .500. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cardinals stand tall over Giants

Matt Carpenter, Brandon Moss and Mark Reynolds all hit home runs, Yadier Molina drove in two and the St. Louis Cardinals beat the San Francisco Giants 7-5 on Sunday.

Jason Heyward added three hits and drove in a run for the Cardinals, who won for the seventh time in eight games. Greg Garcia also drove in a run.

Jaime Garcia (7-4) allowed season highs in hits (10) and runs (four) but was effective enough to improve to 4-0 over his past six starts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Cardinals' Jason Heyward hits an RBI triple on Sunday in San Francisco.
THEARON W. HENDERSON/GETTY IMAGES

Canada's Derek Drouin celebrates winning gold in the men's high jump final on Sunday at the World Athletics Championships in Beijing. WONG MAYE-E/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

High jump gold for determined Drouin

TRACK AND FIELD

Medal helps Canada record best global performance

In the days leading up to the world track and field championships, Derek Drouin played the words over and over in his head, like a song on repeat: You can win this.

And when the competition got tense Sunday night, and seemingly the entire Bird's Nest stadium was pulling for Chinese hero Zhang Guowei, Drouin said them again. The 25-year-old from Corunna, Ont., was true to his word, winning gold in high jump at the world championships with a quiet confidence that ran through virtually every member of this young and talented Canadian team.

"I definitely was telling myself that if there was ever an opportunity this was it. I really felt like I was the one to beat, I felt like this was my championship to lose based on how people had been jumping coming in versus the last couple of meets that I had," Drouin said.

"And when it finally happened, it was just a relief."

The medal was No. 8 for the Canadian team to cap a thrilling best-ever showing.

"We came here to kick ass," said Athletics Canada head coach Peter Eriksson. "We kicked ass."

Canada's previous best performance was five medals two years ago in Moscow, Russia. The Canadians had never won two gold — Canada's other one this week came from pole vaulter Shawn Barber. And the last time Canada won more medals in either a world championships or Olympics was at the 1932 Games, where the Canadians captured nine.

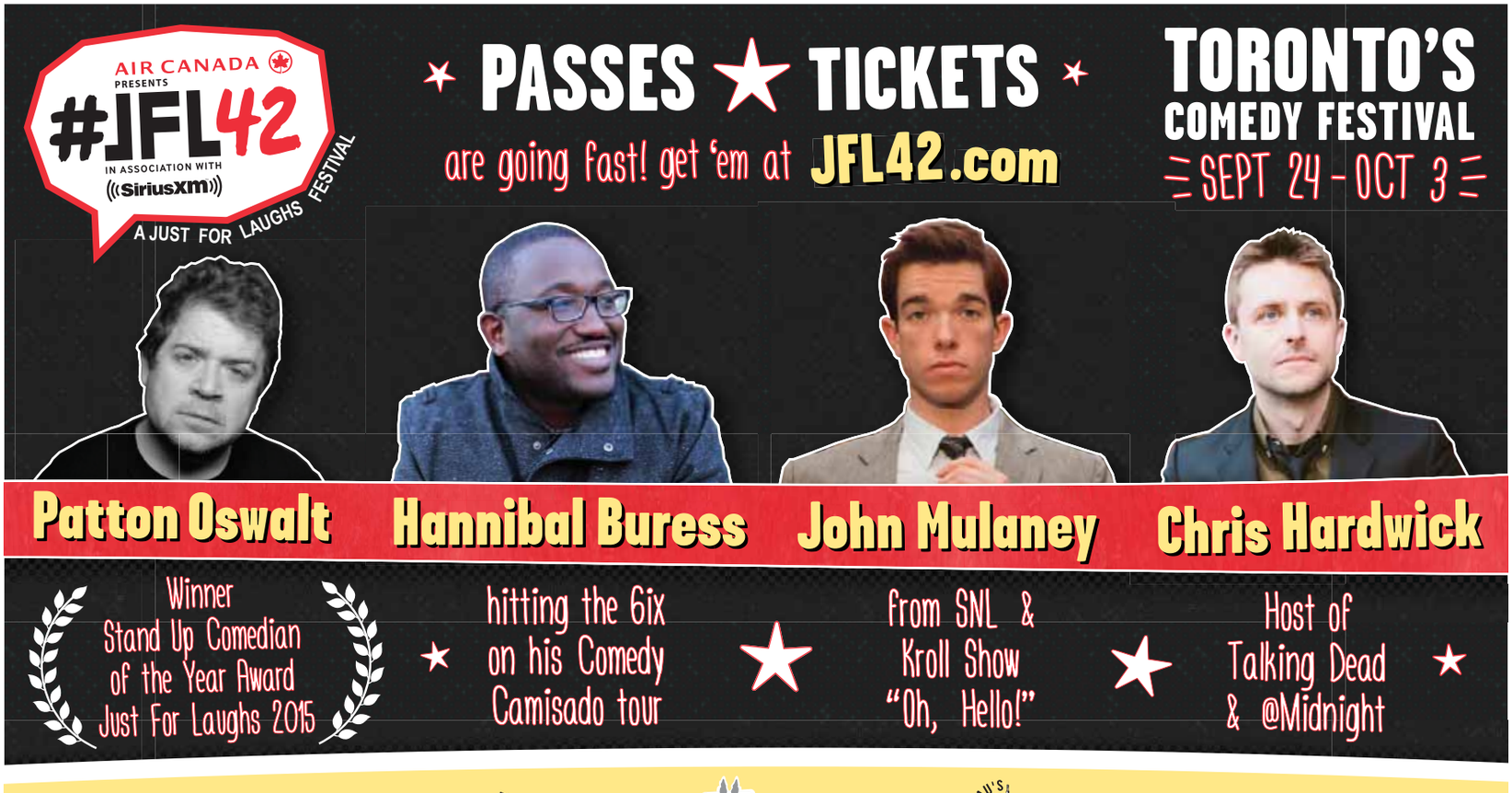
Drouin arrived in Beijing with the fifth-best jump in the world this year, and on the heels of a victory at the Pan American Games. The edge-of-your-seat event was decided in a rare jump-off. Drouin, Ukraine's Bohdan Bondarenko and China's Zhang Guowei all jumped clean up to 2.36 metres, at which all three of them missed.

The bar was lowered back to 2.34. Drouin was the only one to clear it, guaranteeing gold. Bondarenko and Zhang shared silver; there was no bronze awarded. THE CANADIAN PRESS

STANDINGS

Even with its sixth straight title in the men's 4x400-metre relay, the USA still finished third behind Jamaica and winners Kenya with only six gold medals at this year's world championships.

Jamaica again proved it is much more than just Usain Bolt when the country's women's team defeated the Americans on Sunday in the 4x400 relay to win its seventh gold medal and deny Allyson Felix a 10th world title. Canada's best-ever performance at the worlds earned it a joint eighth place. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



INDYCAR

Dixon snatches title from Montoya

A heartbreaking week.

A jaw-dropping final few laps.

A tiebreaking finale.

A familiar face hoisting the championship trophy.

Scott Dixon captured his fourth IndyCar championship Sunday by winning the season finale to snatch the title from Juan Pablo Montoya.

Montoya led the standings from the season-opener until the final lap of the year. But in a race worth double points, Dixon overcame a 47-point deficit to tie Montoya in the standings.

The title went to the New Zealander based on number of wins: Sunday was Dixon's third of the season, while Montoya had two.

"There was still a chance, and that's what we were hoping for," Dixon said. "I still can't believe it. We were such a long shot."

It was one of the few uplifting moments after a sombre week following the death of Justin Wilson. Wilson was struck in the head by a piece of debris from another car last Sunday at Pocono Raceway and died a day later from his injuries. Dixon was one of many supporters who stayed in Pennsylvania with Wilson's family at the hospital.

"We all raced with heavy hearts this weekend," Dixon said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Justin would have wanted us to go out and race, and today I gave it my all.

Scott Dixon on racing the week after his friend Justin Wilson died

Wayne Rooney of Manchester United goes down in the penalty area on a challenge by Ashley Williams on Sunday in Swansea, Wales. No penalty was given, the Swans won 2-1 and Rooney has yet to score this Premier League season. MICHAEL REGAN/GETTY IMAGES

Wales of an upset

PREMIER LEAGUE

Swans top Man United to cap topsy-turvy weekend

Manchester United's early-season problems at both ends of the pitch were exposed in a 2-1 loss at Swansea on Sunday that ended its unbeaten start in the Premier League.

The Red Devils again showed a lack of cutting edge up front, failing to turn dominance and good build-up play into goals.

United was comfortable and perhaps should have been more than 1-0 ahead, through Juan Mata's 49th-minute strike, when Swansea launched its comeback with two goals in five minutes from Andre Ayew and Bafetimbi Gomis.

Gomis' winner in the 66th minute capped a brilliant, sweeping team move but should have been kept out by goalkeeper Sergio Romero, who failed to stop a low shot at his near post. Romero is only playing because United's first-choice goalkeeper, David de Gea, isn't being picked while he is linked with a move to Real Madrid.

With Europe's summer transfer window closing in England on Tuesday, United has two days to resolve its goalkeeper situation and to decide whether to sign a new striker to help out Wayne Rooney, who is yet to score in the Premier League since April.

"I have enjoyed our football," United manager Louis van Gaal said, "but you need the result and we lost again."

Swansea has no such problems up front. Gomis, who scored for the fourth straight game this season, and summer signing Ayew have netted all seven of the team's goals in the league, lifting Swansea to fourth in the standings after four games.

United has lost three straight games to Swansea and fell five points behind Man City, which has won all four of its games.

In Sunday's other match, Southampton claimed its first win of the season by beating Norwich 3-0 thanks to Graziano Pelle's goal and a double from Dusan Tadic. Norwich played with 10 men from the 31st minute, when Steven Whittaker was sent off for two bookings with the score at 0-0. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NO COMFORT AT HOME

Manchester United's loss came a day after Jose Mourinho's champion Chelsea suffered a shocking 2-1 loss to Crystal Palace at Stamford Bridge and Brendan Rodgers-led Liverpool fell 3-0 to West Ham at Anfield.

3

Manchester United have scored just three goals in four league games.

IN BRIEF

Jones edges Tagliani at Bowmanville NASCAR event

Erik Jones won the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race Sunday at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park in Bowmanville to take the series points lead

The 19-year-old Jones beat Canadian road racer Alex Tagliani to the first turn off a restart with two laps left on the 2.459-mile road course and held off two-time defending series champion Matt Crafton by 1.665 seconds. Tagliani slipped to fifth. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Johnson embraces running back role with Redblacks

Jeremiah Johnson took full advantage when opportunity came calling.

Johnson scored three rushing touchdowns as the Redblacks downed the Saskatchewan Roughriders 35-13 on Sunday, three days after Ottawa released running back Chevon Walker. Johnson replaced walker in the starting lineup.

"I did what I was supposed to do. This is nothing different for me," said Johnson. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLS

TFC pair called up at critical juncture

Toronto FC midfielder Michael Bradley and forward Jozy Altidore have been named to the United States soccer team for a pair of friendly matches.

The 23-man roster, announced Sunday, will play the friendlies in preparation of an Oct. 10 playoff against Mexico for a spot in the 2017 FIFA Confederations Cup.

The U.S. will meet Peru on Sept. 4 in Washington, D.C., and Brazil on Sept. 8 in Foxborough, Mass. Bradley will join the U.S. team ahead of the match against Brazil.

Before Toronto FC's 2-1 win over Montreal Impact on Saturday, the Reds' other designated player, Sebastian Giovinco, was summoned by the Italian men's national team for Euro 2016 qualifiers against Malta on Thursday and Bulgaria on Sept. 7.

Fourth-place Toronto FC have league games on Saturday in Seattle and Sept. 13 at home versus New England. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Michael Bradley THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jozy Altidore THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sebastian Giovinco THE CANADIAN PRESS

TRANSFER NEWS

... And City's midfield only gets stronger

Manchester City demonstrated its financial might by breaking the club's transfer record for the second time this summer to sign Kevin de Bruyne on Sunday, making the Belgium midfielder the second most-expensive player in English history.

De Bruyne is reported to have cost City more than 50 million pounds ($77 million US) — less than two months after the club's Abu Dhabi ownership spent 49 million pounds ($76 million US) on Raheem Sterling.

City has spent close to $250 million in transfer fees this summer as the club looks to win the Premier League for the third time in five seasons and end four years of underachievement in the Champions League. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kevin de Bruyne GETTY IMAGES

AROUND EUROPE ON SUNDAY

In Italy

Bosnia internationals Miralem Pjanic and Edin Dzeko scored in the second half as Roma beat bitter title rival Juventus 2-1 in Rome, leaving the Turin power with two straight losses to start Serie A for the first time in its history.

In Spain

Jorge (Koke) Resurreccion, Gabi Fernandez and substitute forward Jackson Martinez scored a goal each as Atletico Madrid defeated Sevilla 3-0 to win its second game in a row and keep pace with Barcelona atop the Spanish league.

In Germany

Late substitute Adrian Ramos secured Borussia Dortmund's 3-1 victory over Hertha Berlin that preserved his team's lead in the Bundesliga.

In Portugal

Arouca was held to a 1-1 draw at Pacos Ferreira, missing a chance to take the lead of the Portuguese league. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win at The Barclays all in a Day's work

Jason Day carded a 19-under 261 over the four rounds in Edison, N.J. SCOTT HALLERAN/GETTY IMAGES

PGA

Aussie wins tournament by six strokes

The toughest challenge Jason Day faced Sunday at The Barclays was convincing his peers that golf really isn't this easy.

He's just making it look that way.

Fresh off his first major at the PGA Championship, the 27-year-old Australian powered and putted his way to another blowout against a world-class field, capping off an explosive weekend at Plainfield with an 8-under 62 for a six-shot victory over Henrik Stenson.

It was his third victory in his last four starts dating to another close call at the British Open, where he left a 30-foot birdie putt short on the final hole at St. Andrews and missed out on a playoff by one shot. In his mind, that's where it all changed.

"Ever since then, I just felt a lot more calm on the golf course," he said. "I felt like it was my time. Mentally I felt like, 'You paid your dues, now it's time to go out and win tournaments.' I'm not going to say in the future it's going to be like this all the time, because it's very difficult to win."

Day shot 63-62 on the weekend and finished at 19-under 261. He won two weeks ago at Whistling Straits by three shots over Jordan Spieth with a record score to par at 20-under 268. And the week after St. Andrews, he won the Canadian Open by one shot over Bubba Watson at 17-under 271.

"Jason is full of confidence, just heating it up, making birdies," said Stenson, who pulled within two shots at one point and closed with a 66. "It would have taken something really special to challenge him today the way he's playing at the moment."

Watson, who birdied the 18th hole for a 69 to finish third, was standing on the 15th hole when he said he turned to caddie Ted Scott and told him, "I'm playing good the last few months, and Jason Day is playing a thousand times better."

Day remains at No. 3 in the world, but now enters the picture with Spieth and Rory McIlroy for golf supremacy. All three will have a mathematical chance to get to No. 1 at the Deutsche Bank Championship next week at the TPC Boston.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOP CANUCK

David Hearn of Brantford was the top Canadian after shooting 2-under 68 to finish in a tie for 45th place.

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Ingredients
- 12 oz lean steak such as flank or top sirloin
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 2 cups sliced onions
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- 1 cup sliced yellow bell pepper
- 1 cup sliced red bell pepper
- 2 Tbsp chopped cilantro or basil
- 1 medium ripe avocado diced
- 2 Tbsp light mayonnaise
- Pinch of salt
- 4 sandwich rolls or baguettes, cut into 3 oz portions

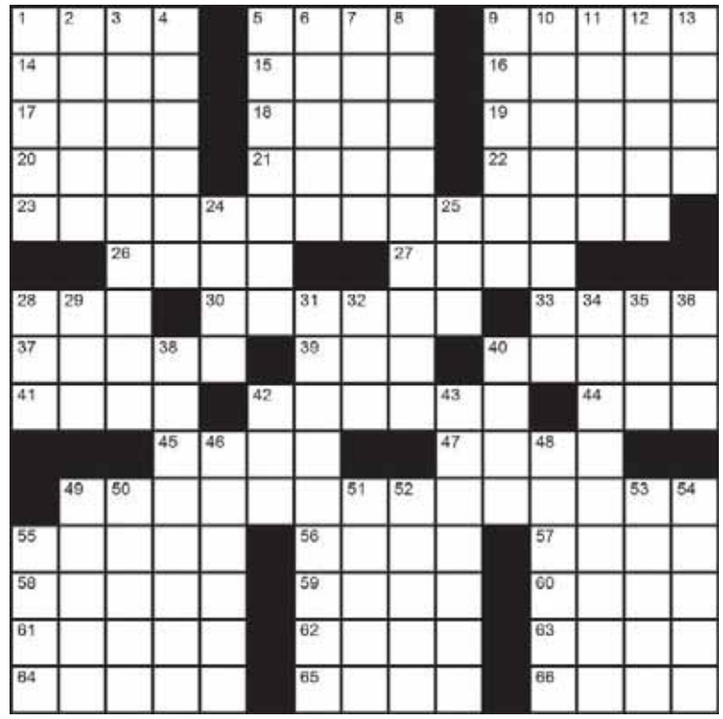
Directions
1. In a grill pan or BBQ, sear meat on both sides, then cook until desired doneness. For rare, cook to 125 F, approximately 10 minutes. Let sit for 10 minutes, then slice thinly across the grain.
2. Meanwhile in a large heated skillet, add oil and onions and sauté on a medium heat for 10 minutes, or just until tender. Add garlic and bell peppers and sauté for five minutes. Add cilantro.
3. In a small bowl, mash avocado with mayonnaise and salt until still chunky.
4. On one half of each roll, spread with avocado mash, then add sliced meat and grilled vegetables, top with other half of bun.

Nutrition per serving
- Calories 520
- Protein 31 g
- Carbohydrates 64 g
- Fibre 7 g
- Total fat 17 g
- Saturated fat 4.5 g
- Cholesterol 35 mg
- Sodium 550 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Scissors sound
5. Antarctica's Prince __ Coast
9. Guns N' Roses member
14. Sharpen skills
15. Choir member's garb
16. Name of Parks Canada's cute little beaver mascot
17. Monica Geller's brother
18. Dr. Frankenstein's helper
19. Atlantic __
20. Condo purchase
21. Some trees
22. Verbal tests
23. American general who led his men on a calamitous march on Quebec City in 1775: 2 wds.
26. Dundee's animal in movies, casually
27. Flip
28. Three Dog Night hit
30. Like a god
33. Flippant talk
37. Green/grey songbird
39. Void: French
40. Bring forth
41. Son of Garden guy Adam
42. Artificial
44. Arctic explorer John
45. To be, in ancient Rome
47. Shell
49. Fish dish popular in Manitoba: 2 wds.
55. __ blanche
56. Actress Ms. Summer
57. Lemony
58. Towards the ship's left side
59. __ __ it (Is a conspirator)
60. Hautbois
61. Frenzied
62. Hair dye
63. Skeleton part
64. Prepare mentally
65. Verbal head nods
66. Shade of blue ... or green

DOWN
1. Pruned plant
2. Nary a soul: 2 wds.
3. Phony
4. Annoy
5. Opening
6. Someone smart's specialty
7. Terminate
8. Multi-functional
9. "Nova Heart" is by what Canadian band?
10. Canada's national summer sport
11. "Is that _ __ diamond?" (Ring purchaser's query)
12. Ancient poet of Scandinavia
13. Danish writer, __ Christian Andersen (b.1805 - d.1875)
24. Extinct bird of Mauritius
25. Bird of myth
28. Latin roe
29. Calligraphy need
31. Metropolis area: 2 wds.
32. Stuff in the dog brush
34. Accommodating
35. Tasman, for one
36. __-Julie, Quebec
38. 'E' of GE
40. Ho-hum
42. Expend
43. Specialties of SNL alum Fred Armisen
46. Draw
48. Embark: 2 wds.
49. "__ Got a Brand New Bag" by James Brown
50. Literary trope
51. "Sesame Street" puppet
52. "Bleeding Love" singer Ms. Lewis
53. Sweden's money
54. Take, thief-style
55. Kitschy

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
The way to resolve some kind of crisis is to approach it indirectly. There is no point being blunt or direct because it will only hurt others' feelings and make matters worse.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
No matter how hard you try to get along with someone it never seems to work. Isn't it about time you got the message and severed ties with them entirely? If you must, give it one last go but then call it a day.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
There will be major changes over the coming week and they will be the kind of changes you can do little about. The good news is that more enjoyable times are on their way.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Greet the week with a smile because if you start off on the wrong foot you won't get much done. Neptune, planet of illusion and confusion, will make things look worse than they are. Don't be fooled.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
It's good to have high expectations but don't pass up an opportunity just because it fails to meet your stratospheric standards. The opportunity may not seem remarkable but it is what you choose to make of it.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you want others to do things for you then you'll have to do something for them. Someone will help you realize your ambitions, but not for free.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You may get a bit touchy if someone you thought was on your side makes a big deal out of some minor mistake you made. What you have to realize is that from their point of view it is a much bigger mistake.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You will take some kind of risk as the week begins. With Venus moving retrograde through the career area of your chart be careful you don't upset people in positions of power.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may have only limited control over what other people say and do but you have total control over what you say and do. Keep that in mind this week.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The planets warn this is not a good time to make major moves, especially where money is concerned. It may seem as if you are on a sure-fire winner but looks can be deceptive.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Someone in your social circle has been taking a lot of liberties of late. Let them know that enough is enough. Will it put your friendship at risk? Maybe, but rather that than they keep using you as a doormat.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Your words could have a negative effect on an important relationship. Yes, the other person is touchy but that's just the way they are, so make allowances.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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